MARS 2

マース

惣領冬実（そうりょうふゆみ）

Volume 2

By Fuyumi Soryo

TOKYOPOP®

LOS ANGELES • TOKYO

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MARS

LEGEND OF MARS

Rei Kashino
He's a high school student with a love for motorcycle racing. He is blown away by Kira's drawings. He lives for the moment and is not afraid of anything.

Kira Asa
She's a shy student with an amazing talent for art. She asks Rei to model for her and begins to fall in love with him. She's always been timid, but Rei helps her find her hidden strength.

Our story up to now...

Kira is crushing hard on Rei after she saw him smooch a statue of Mars in her school's art studio. (How sweet!) After Rei saw Kira's amazing sketch of a mother and child, he can't get her off his mind. Rei is super excited when Kira promises to give him her painting of the mother and child when she's finished with it. In return, Rei promises to protect her from anything and everything. Then Kira asks Rei to model for her...and sparks fly.

Harumi
She's in love with Rei. She sees Kira as her enemy and bullies her mercilessly.

Harumi, Rei's former fling, becomes insanely jealous of Kira. She pulls Kira into the gym and threatens to crush her fingers unless she agrees to give up on Rei. Kira refuses and realizes for the first time that she might truly be in love with him. Harumi is heartbroken when she realizes how much Kira and Rei actually like each other. In a jealous rage, she issues a warning to Kira. "For your own sake, I wouldn't get too serious about Rei... you might die sooner than you think." What could Haruemi mean by that?!

Tatsuya
Rei's best friend. He used to have feelings for Kira, but how does he feel now?!

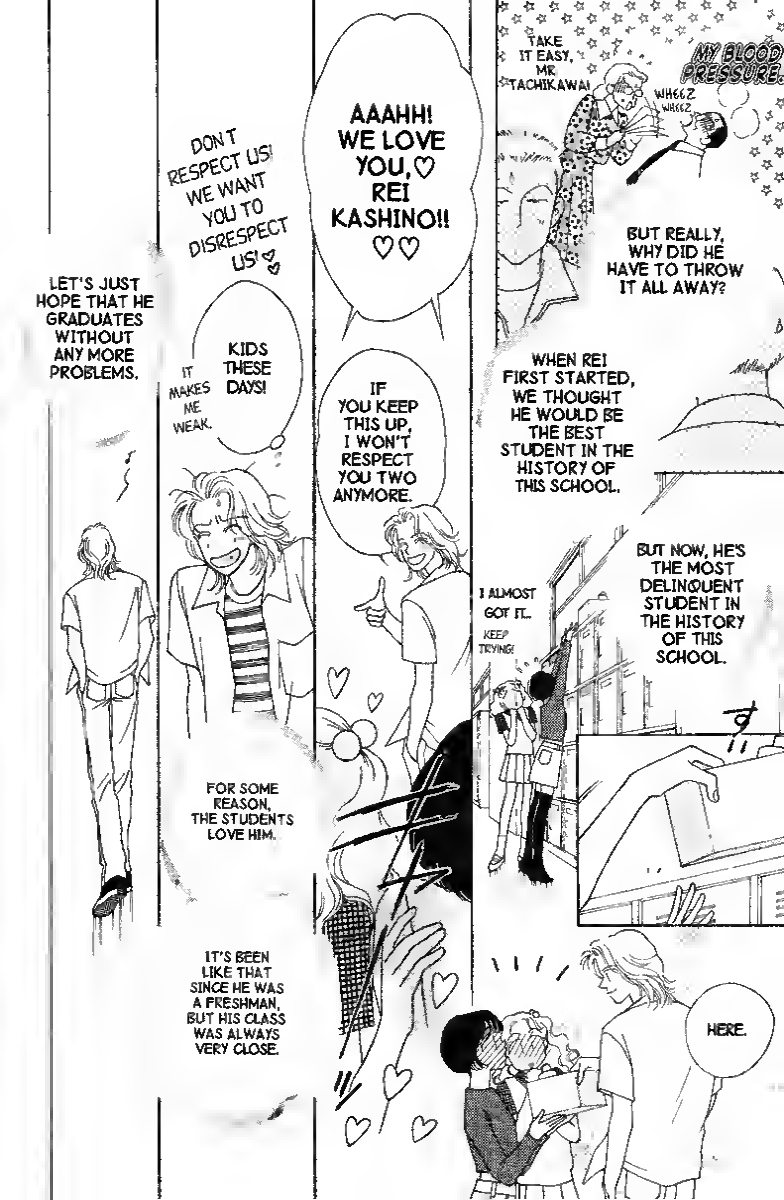
REI STOOD OUT SINCE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.
HE WAS THE OBJECT OF ALL THE GIRLS' DESIRES, AND EVEN THE GUYS HAD TO TAKE A STEP BACK AROUND HIM.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT WE LIVED IN DIFFERENT WORLDS.
REI!!
PACKERS
83

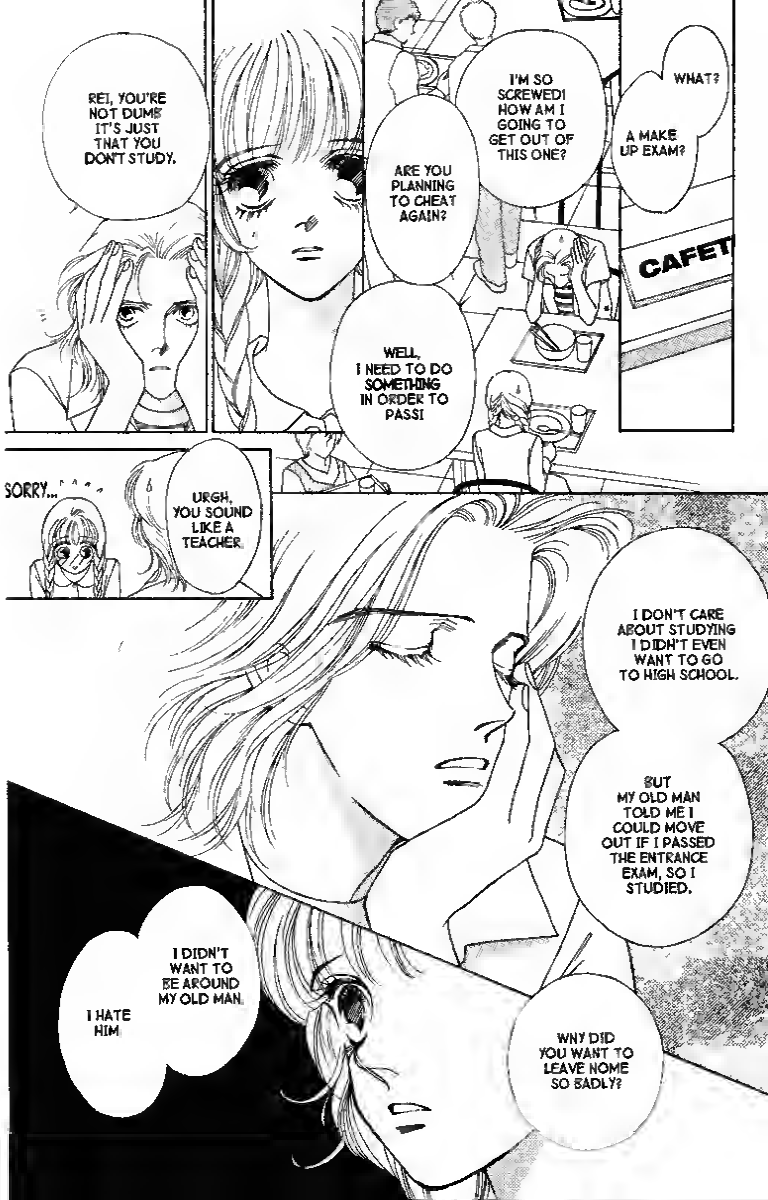
YEAH,
I LOOK EVEN BETTER WITH MY CLOTHES OFF.
きゃー?
ARE YOU MODELING NUDE?
HEY, IS IT TRUE THAT YOU'RE MODELING FOR KIRA?
JUST KIDDING.
くる、
Huh?!
YOU LIAR!
WE'VE HEARD, YOU KNOW!
WHAT IS THIS?! THESE ARE ALL OF HIM SLEEPING!
SHOW US THE GOODS! WHERE ARE THE NUDE ONES!?
IS IT TRUE REI IS GOING OUT WITH KIRA?
BUT...
I HAVEN'T DRAWN ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
HEY KIRA!
STOP HOGGING HIM ALL TO YOURSELF!
SHOW US REI'S PORTRAITS!
? ?

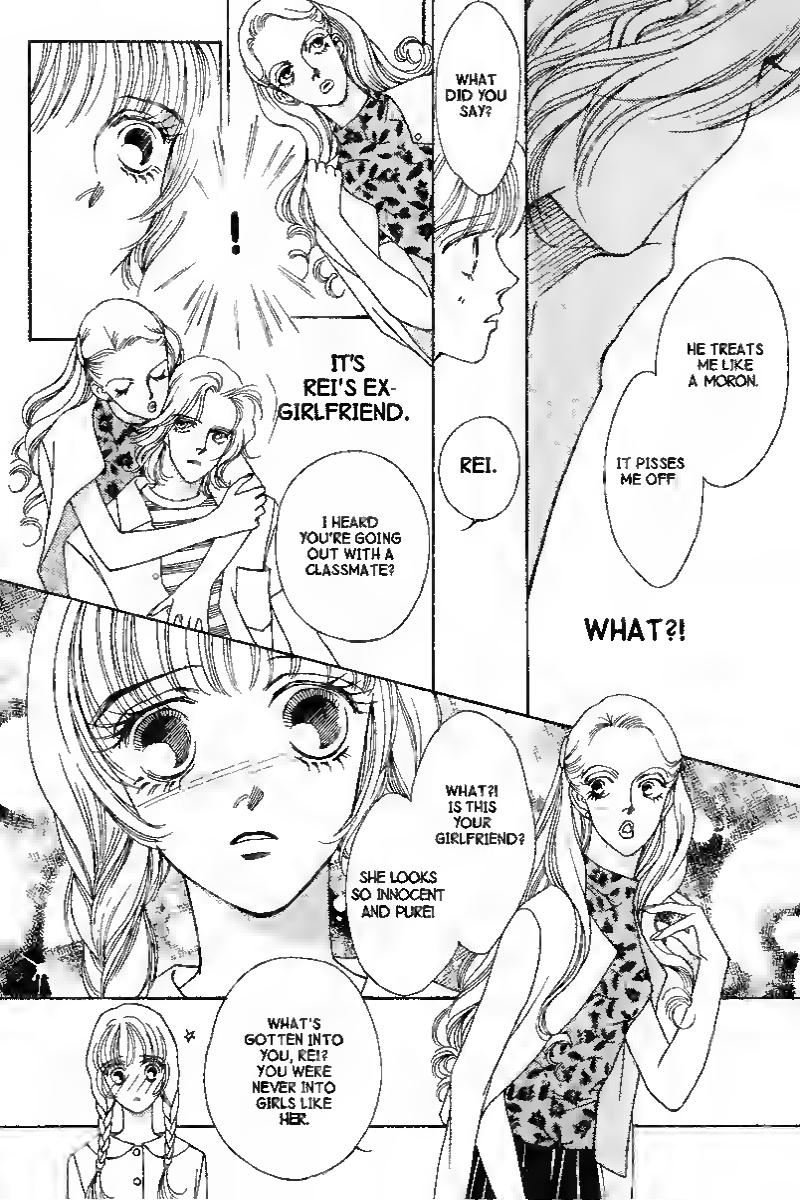
WHAT A SHOCKER. THE GUY WHO STANDS OUT THE MOST AND THE GIRL WHO STANDS OUT THE LEAST END UP TOGETHER.
I WONDER IF THEY'VE DONE "IT"?
OF COURSE. WE ARE TALKING ABOUT REI, RIGHT?
EVEN KIRA FELL VICTIM TO HIM.
LITTLE TATSU
OH, THE SHADOWS AND LIGHT OF YOUTH..
HEY,
OKAY?
DON'T BE ALL UPTIGHT.
BUT WE CAN'T BE DOING THIS.
WE'LL GET IN TROUBLE.
HO...
I CAN'T.
COME ON..
UH...
HO.

QUIET.
TEST IN PROGRESS
HMM?
JUST SHOW ME THE ANSWERS!
AH!
stupid...
.....
I'M NOT SURE, MAN. I DON'T KNOW IF I JUST LIVED IT UP TOO HARD, TOO EARLY, OR IF I'M JUST BURNED OUT.
EITHER WAY, I DON'T PLAN ON GOING TO COLLEGE.
WHY DON'T YOU GET SERIOUS? WE KNOW YOU COULD EXCEL IF YOU JUST TRIED A LITTLE.
SINCE YOU'VE BEEN HERE, YOU'VE GONE FROM BEING THE TOP STUDENT IN SCHOOL TO CHEATING ON EXAMS.
REI, DON'T YOU WANT TO BE SOMEBODY?!
Guidance Office

YOUR FATHER IS VERY UPSET.
HE DESPERATELY WANTS YOU TO GO TO COLLEGE
HE DOESN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND ME, AS USUAL.
COLLEGE IS JUST A TRAINING SCHOOL FOR OFFICE WORKERS ANYWAY.
AND I HAVE NO PLANS TO BECOME AN OFFICE WORKER.
NO ONE'S TELLING YOU TO BECOME AN OFFICE WORKER
THEN WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS AND DREAMS FOR THE FUTURE?
I WANT TO BE POPULAR, I WANT TO GET LAID, AND I JUST WANT TO PARTY.
MR. Tachikawa!
I WAS JUST KIDDING!!


TAKE IT EASY, MR. TACHIKAWA!
MY BLOOD PRESSURE...
WHEEZ WHEEZ
BUT REALLY, WHY DID HE HAVE TO THROW IT ALL AWAY?
WHEN REI FIRST STARTED, WE THOUGHT HE WOULD BE THE BEST STUDENT IN THE HISTORY OF THIS SCHOOL.
BUT NOW, HE'S THE MOST DELINQUENT STUDENT IN THE HISTORY OF THIS SCHOOL.
I ALMOST GOT IT.
KEEP TRYING!
HERE.
AAAHH! WE LOVE YOU, ♡ REI KASHINO!! ♡♡
IF YOU KEEP THIS UP, I WON'T RESPECT YOU TWO ANYMORE.
DON'T RESPECT US! WE WANT YOU TO DISRESPECT US! ♡
KIDS THESE DAYS!
IT MAKES ME WEAK.
LET'S JUST HOPE THAT HE GRADUATES WITHOUT ANY MORE PROBLEMS.
FOR SOME REASON, THE STUDENTS LOVE HIM.
IT'S BEEN LIKE THAT SINCE HE WAS A FRESHMAN, BUT HIS CLASS WAS ALWAYS VERY CLOSE.


REI, YOU'RE NOT DUMB IT'S JUST THAT YOU DON'T STUDY.
ARE YOU PLANNING TO CHEAT AGAIN?
I'M SO SCREWED! HOW AM I GOING TO GET OUT OF THIS ONE?
WHAT?
A MAKE UP EXAM?
CAFET
WELL, I NEED TO DO SOMETHING IN ORDER TO PASS!
SORRY...
URGH, YOU SOUND LIKE A TEACHER.
I DON'T CARE ABOUT STUDYING I DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO GO TO HIGH SCHOOL.
BUT MY OLD MAN TOLD ME I COULD MOVE OUT IF I PASSED THE ENTRANCE EXAM, SO I STUDIED.
WHY DID YOU WANT TO LEAVE NOME SO BADLY?
I DIDN'T WANT TO BE AROUND MY OLD MAN.
I HATE HIM.

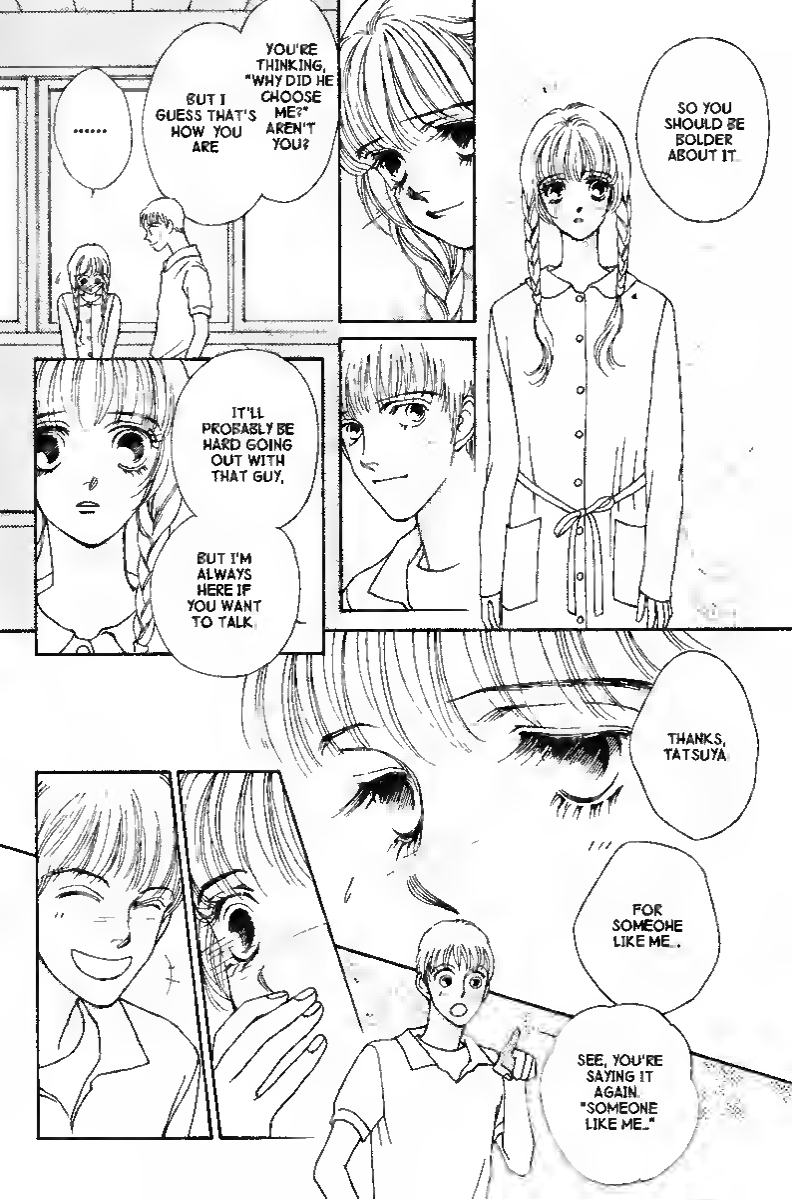

WHAT DID YOU SAY?
!
IT'S REI'S EX-GIRLFRIEND.
REI.
I HEARD YOU'RE GOING OUT WITH A CLASSMATE?
HE TREATS ME LIKE A MORON.
IT PISSES ME OFF
WHAT?!
WHAT?! IS THIS YOUR GIRLFRIEND?
SHE LOOKS SO INNOCENT AND PURE!
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU, REI? YOU WERE NEVER INTO GIRLS LIKE HER.

WELL, SHE TRUSTS ME. AND DOESN'T RIP OUT MY HAIR WHEN SHE'S HAD A BAD DAY.
WHAT? WAS I VIOLENT?
I WAS SLAPPED AROUND QUITE A BIT.
WELL, YOU'D BETTER WATCH OUT.
THESE TYPES GET ALL NEEDY WHEN YOU GET WITH THEM, AND WON'T LEAVE YOU ALONE
WHAT? REALLY?
IT'S REI'S NEW GIRLFRIEND AND HIS EX.
AND REI'S IN THE MIDDLE
HEY!
LOOK OVER THERE!
SO WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT HER?
HMMM .. WHAT DO I LIKE?

WOW! LET'S SEE IF IT'S TRUE, KIRA.
.....
HUHH!
DON'T TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T DONE IT YET?
WE HAVEN'T.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IF YOU'RE NOT HAVING SEX?
WE TALK.
No way!
I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T GOOD FOR ANYTHING BUT SEX!
T-T-talk?!
WELL WITH US,
IT WAS REALLY THE ONLY THING WE COULD DO.
YOU KNOW, BECAUSE WE'RE BOTH STUPID.
OW!
.....
YOU SHOULD TELL KIRA TO HURRY UP AND BREAK UP WITH REI. HE'LL DESTROY HER.
.....
TFT
The Furry Triangles

I...I LIKE HIM.
BUT I DON'T THINK HE LIKES ME.
I THOUGHT YOU LIKED REI.
HE PROBABLY DOESN'T EVEN THINK OF ME AS A REAL GIRL.
HE'S GOT A GOOD HEART, YOU KNOW.
I KNOW.
BUT EVERYONE'S GOT IT ALL WRONG
I'M NOT REI'S GIRLFRIEND
はっ!
YOU COULDN'T BE MORE WRONG I THINK YOU'RE A KNOCKOUT

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, THIS IS PROBABLY HIS FIRST REAL RELATIONSHIP.
!
BUT HE'S GONE OUT WITH ALL THOSE GIRLS..
HE WAS BITING WHATEVER BAIT WAS THROWN HIS WAY..
UNTIL NOW, HE WAS JUST AN ANIMAL.
.....
IF YOU LOOK AT IT THAT WAY, YOU SHOULD BE COMMENDED FOR TRANSFORMING REI.
BUT I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING..
LOVE DOESN'T HAPPEN BECAUSE SOMEONE DOES SOMETHING FOR YOU.
IT'S ALL ABOUT FEELINGS
AT FIRST GLANCE, YOU JUST SEE "HORNY REI" AND "INNOCENT KIRA." BUT THERE MUST BE SOME CONNECTION..


.....
BUT I GUESS THAT'S HOW YOU ARE
YOU'RE THINKING, "WHY DID HE CHOOSE ME?" AREN'T YOU?
SO YOU SHOULD BE BOLDER ABOUT IT.
IT'LL PROBABLY BE HARD GOING OUT WITH THAT GUY.
BUT I'M ALWAYS HERE IF YOU WANT TO TALK.
THANKS, TATSUYA.
FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME..
SEE, YOU'RE SAYING IT AGAIN. "SOMEONE LIKE ME.."

REI, I DON'T MIND YOU PLAYING YOUR GAMEBOY...
...BUT COULD YOU AT LEAST LOOK UP EVERY NOW AND THEN?
NO.
MARIO'LL DIE IF I DO THAT
.....
ASK ME WHATEVER YOU WANT ABOUT THAT GUY
I'LL LET YOU IN ON HIS INNER WORKINGS

I THOUGHT IT WAS GOOD ADVICE,
BUT IT'S NOT MUCH BETTER THAN HIM SLEEPING.
IF YOU DON'T WANT HIM FALLING ASLEEP ON YOU,
GIVE HIM A TOY OR SOMETHING.
Tap Tap
HEY,
WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO FINISH THAT PAINTING?
UM...
THAT'LL PROBABLY TAKE SOME MORE TIME.
HMM
DAMN!
I'M LYING TO HIM.
I HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED IT YET...
MARIO DIED.

IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T WANT TO PAINT IT- BUT IF I GIVE HIM THE PAINTING,
THEN THERE'LL BE NOTHING KEEPING US TOGETHER.
THEY'RE LUCKY
I WISH I WAS PLAYING BALL.
OH,
LOOK AT TATSUYA GO.
NOT AS GOOD AS ME, THOUGH.
HEY!
YOU CAN SEE THE BASKETBALL COURT FROM HERE!
IT SEEMS LIKE IT'LL JUST END...
HA HA HA ATSUSHI'S SUCH A KLUTZ!
I'M BEING SELFISH.

ALL I'M DOING IS RESTRAINING REI.
HE'S ANTSY TO GO OUTSIDE
IT'S THE SAME THING AS TYING HIM TO THAT CHAIR.
MAN, AM I BORED!
HEY!
DON'T MOVE!
!
UM,
COULD YOU JUST GET BACK IN THE POSE YOU WERE IN?
カリ

!
!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?!
YOU'RE MY PROBLEM!

REI!
WHY DID YOU JUST RIP IT UP?
YOU COULD'VE JUST SAID SOMETHING
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, KIRA. I WAS WRONG
SORRY.
REI...

REI!
I'M SORRY
ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.

I'M SORRY I DIDN'T THINK HE WOULD BE SO PISSED
HE WAS JUST SO INSPIRING
KURASAWA.
HE'S SUCH A PERFECT MODEL. WHY DO YOU KEEP DRAWING HIM SLEEPING?
UH, THAT'S NOT REALLY BY CHOICE
IT'S PROBABLY CRAZY FOR ME TO ASK YOU TO DO THIS, BUT...
BREAK

COULD YOU ASK HIM...
...TO MODEL FOR ME?
SERIOUSLY?
I KNEW HE WOULD SAY THAT.
NO WAY.
WHY SHOULD I HELP THAT JERK OUT?
WELL, IT WOULDN'T BE FOR FREE. HE SAID HE'D PAY YOU
WHA--?!
YEAH AND QUITE A BIT, TOO
NO WAY...

HMMMM... I WANT THE MONEY, BUT I DON'T WANT HIM GETTING WEIRD ON ME
I... I DON'T REALLY KNOW
!
I DON'T THINK HE'S NITTING ON YOU.
I THINK NE REALLY JUST WANTS TO PAINT YOU.
NE'S NOT QUEER OR ANYTHING, IS NE?
NE WAS LOOKING FOR A SUBJECT FOR THE CITY ART CONTEST.
IS HE REALLY FAMOUS OR SOMETHING?
NE'S NOT FAMOUS YET, BUT HE DID WIN AN ART CONTEST AS A FRESHMAN AND NE IS EXPECTED TO GO PLACES
NE DID THAT PAINTING IN THE SCHOOL LOBBY
?
WHAT PAINTING?

IT'S BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT?
HE'S AMAZINGLY TALENTED TO HAVE PAINTED THIS AS A FRESHMAN
SINCE WE WERE FRESHMEN
HOW LONG HAS THIS BEEN HERE?
THIS ONE?
IT'S ALMOST BAD.
WHAT MAKES IT BAD?
YEAH,
-IT'S AMAZING A FRESHMAN DID THAT, BUT-
-IF YOU TAKE IT AT FACE VALUE, IT'S NOT THAT GOOD

KURASAWA!
AAAH!
WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE ABOUT MY PAINTING?
KURA-SAWA
HE WASN'T SAYING IT TO BE MEAN...
CHRIST! I'M THE ONE THAT'S BAD REAL BAD
IT'D BE OKAY IF HE WAS JUST BEING MEAN.
I COULDN'T CARE LESS.
BUT...
...IF HE WASN'T SAYING IT TO BE MEAN, THAT MEANS HE HAS A REAL PROBLEM WITH MY PAINTING
AND AS THE ARTIST, I WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT.
IT'S NOT THAT THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH IT...

KURASAWA...
YOU'RE A GOOD ARTIST.
YOU'VE WON AWARDS AND ALL THAT, SO I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
I DON'T WANT A WISHY-WASHY ANSWER LIKE THAT.
I WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU REALLY THINK.
WELL, IT'S LIKE..
WELL DONE AND BEAUTIFUL AND ALL THAT. BUT..
..THAT'S ABOUT ALL IT IS.

I THINK I JUST DUG A HUGE HOLE FOR MYSELF
.....
!
IT SHOWS GOOD TECHNIQUE, BUT YOU DON'T FEEL ANYTHING
THERE'S NO SOUL IN IT.
OF COURSE IT HAS NO SOUL...
...TO SOMEONE AS CRUDE AND IGNORANT AS YOURSELF.
I'M NOT PAINTING FOR IDIOTS LIKE YOU!

KURASAWA!
S-S-
SORRY.
NO,
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT
WELL, THEN FORGET WHAT AN IDIOT LIKE ME SAID ABOUT IT
!
UM, ABOUT THE MODELING THING

WELL, THAT WOULD BE A "NO"
THE CRITICS WOULD DISMISS ANY PAINTING OF SUCH AN UNCIVILIZED SUBJECT, RIGHT?
REI! WAIT UP!

I SAID TOO MUCH, DIDN'T I?
IT'S KURASAWA WHO MADE YOU SAY IT. YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG.
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH YOU? IF YOU GET PICKED ON BECAUSE OF THIS AGAIN...
LET ME KNOW IF HE DOES ANYTHING NASTY. I'LL APOLOGIZE TO HIM.
I'LL BE OKAY.

DON'T WORRY.

Art Studio
WHAT? HE WAS SO HOT
IT'S TOO BAD
YEAH, I STOPPED ASKING HIM TO MODEL
REI HASN'T BEEN AROUND LATELY.

I CAN'T ASK HIM TO COME HERE. NOT AFTER WHAT I MADE HIM GO THROUGH.
OF COURSE IT HAS NO SOUL TO SOMEONE AS CRUDE AND IGNORANT AS YOURSELF
REI'S NOT IGNORANT.
HE JUST HAS A ROUGH WAY OF SPEAKING. HE'S REALLY VERY SENSITIVE.
THAT DAY, KURASAWA WAS THE ONE WHO SEEMED AND SOUNDED ORDINARY.
IT'S NOT HERE!
THAT DRAWING THAT I HAD IN MY SKETCHBOOK...
!

Library
I HEARD HE'S BEEN AT THE LIBRARY INSTEAD OF THE ART STUDIO.
WHAT'S HE DOING AT THE LIBRARY?
HE'S STUDYING, OF COURSE
WHAT?
WHAT THE HELL'S GOTTEN INTO HIM?
REI HASN'T BEEN AROUND MUCH LATELY, HAS HE?
HE'S PROBABLY BUSY WITH MODELING
THAT'S THE THING...
FORGET IT. IT'S NO USE
!

WHAT'S THE POINT OF DOING THIS NOW?
I'LL STILL BE DUMB NO MATTER WHAT I DO.
YOU'RE NOT DUMB
AREN'T YOU GIVING ME WAY TOO MUCH CREDIT?
YOU'VE JUST BECOME DUMB.
I THINK YOU'RE ACTUALLY A REALLY SMART PERSON.
******
ASKING ME TO MODEL, MAKING ME STUDY
YOU KEEP ASKING ME TO DO THESE RIDICULOUS THINGS
THAT KURASAWA GUY KNOWS ME WAY BETTER THAN YOU

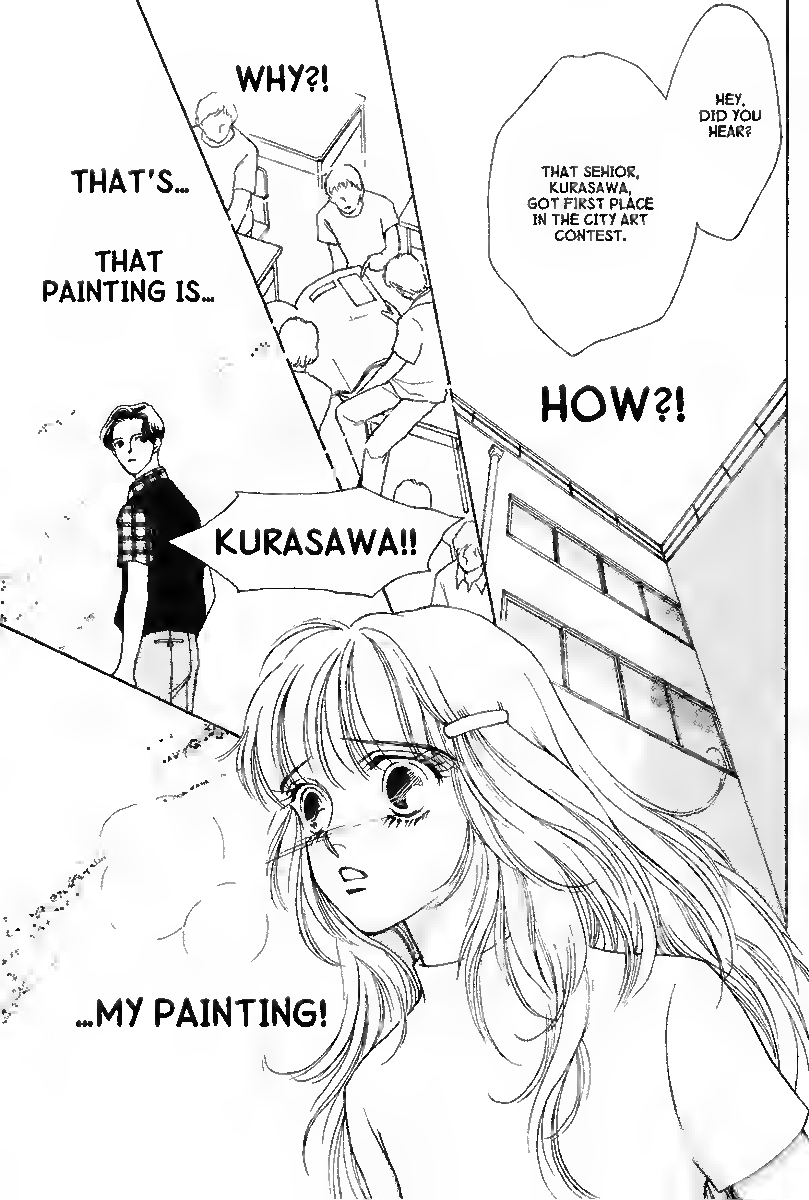
IT SCARES ME SOMETIMES
?
YOU'RE NOT STUPID OR IGNORANT.
IF ANYTHING, YOU'RE VERY PERCEPTIVE AND SMART.
THAT WASN'T JUST A THREAT
YOU KNOW,
LIKE HOW YOU THREATENED HIM WITH THE BOX CUTTER.
LIKE THE TIME YOU GOT RID OF MR. YOSHIOKA.
YOU HAVE THIS ABILITY TO READ PEOPLE.
READ PEOPLE?
YEAH.
THAT WAS FOR REAL.

REI, DID YOU DO SOMETHING TO MR. YOSHIOKA AFTER THAT?
NO, NOTHING.
HE RAN AWAY BEFORE I COULD DO ANYTHING
I WAS GOING TO CUT HIM IF HE CAME AT ME
BUT THAT GUY HAD NO GUTS
I HEARD MR. YOSHIOKA QUIT.
IT WAS SO SUDDEN.

YOU MIGHT DIE SOONER THAN YOU THINK.
WHY DOES HE STILL GO ON SMILING...
WHAT IS THIS FEAR I HAVE?
LOGIC MEANS NOTHING TO HIM. HE'LL DO WHATEVER HE THINKS IS RIGHT...
...WITH THAT CHILDLIKE INNOCENCE?
...EVEN IF IT RUINS HIM.

I REMEMBER THE COMPOSITION AND THE FEEL.
BUT THE COLORS...
I CAN'T REMEMBER THE COLORS.
I DON'T REMEMBER REI'S COLORS.
WHERE DID IT GO?
I LOOKED ALL OVER MY ROOM, BUT I CAN'T FIND IT.
IT'S NOT HERE.
I WONDER IF I DROPPED IT...

HIS INTENSE COLORS DROWN OUT EVERYTHING ELSE.
YOU WERE UP LATE DRAWING AGAIN, WEREN'T YOU?
WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A REST? YOU'RE UP LATE EVERY NIGHT.
KIRA, HURRY UP OR YOU'LL BE LATE!


WHY?!
THAT'S...
THAT PAINTING IS...
HEY, DID YOU HEAR?
THAT SENIOR, KURASAWA, GOT FIRST PLACE IN THE CITY ART CONTEST.
HOW?!
KURASAWA!!
...MY PAINTING!

WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO FINISH THAT PAINTING?
YOU'RE MISTAKEN
THAT'S MY PAINTING
YOUR IDEA PROBABLY JUST HAPPENED TO COINCIDE WITH MINE

REI...
SEE, LOOK.
IT'S BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT?
THAT SENIOR, KURASAWA, WON IN THE ART CONTEST
WHAT'S GOING ON?
KURA-SAWA?
OH, THAT ARTIST GUY.
HEY, REI.

WASN'T THAT REI KASHINO?
ISN'T HE A JUNIOR? HE'S REALLY HOT!
3-E
I WONDER WHAT HE'S DOING IN A SENIOR CLASSROOM?
HEY, YOU KNOW THE ART GEEK, KURASAWA? WHAT'S HIS HOMEROOM?
KURASAWA'S IN 3-E.
THANKS.
HEY, HE'S IN RIKA'S CLASS

HEY,
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
DON'T EVEN TRY GETTING BACK TOGETHER--!
?

YOU NO-TALENT HACK!

MARS

MARS 2

by Fuyumi Soryo

TOKYOPOP

MARS 2

Fuyumi Soryo

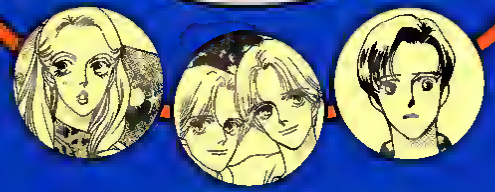
TOKYOPOP

100% AUTHENTIC MANGA

Stolen Heorts

Rei pramised Kira that he wauld pratect her from anything and everything, but he never knew how soon his chance wauld come. When a canniving classmote steals Kira's ariginal painting, Rei quickly stands up far her, but his efforts are hardly reworded. He gets kicked aut af school, ond naw it laaks like he might became a permanent drapaut. Suddenly, "good girl" Kira finds herself in the middle of o bod situotion. She'll need more than a little luck if she ever wants to rescue Rei ond salvoge her hopes for o future romonce.

An epic romance that spans 15 valumes, MARS is one af Japan's most populor teen girl comics ever.



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T TEEN AGE 13+

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TFT
The Furry Triangle
We Love Beavers.

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, PUNK?
DON'T THINK YOU CAN JUST COME IN A SENIOR CLASSROOM AND DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!

!

I'LL LEAVE WHEN I'M DONE.
GOT IT?
WAAAH!
STOP
!
KIRA'S JUST GOTTEN IT INTO HER HEAD THAT I TOOK IT.
YOU...
YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE. I DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING.

YOU'RE RIGHT-HANDED, RIGHT?
HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THE SOUND OF BONES BREAKING?
WELL, YOU'RE GONNA HEAR IT NOW
2-B
HEY!
REI'S GONE BALLISTIC IN ONE OF THE SENIOR CLASSROOMS!
!

WHAT'S GOING ON, KASHINO?
FIGHTING IN SCHOOL, WITH AN UPPERCLASSMAN, NO LESS?
Guidance Office
WHAT IS THIS ABOUT, KURASAWA?
I...UM... I DON'T KNOW.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON
REALLY?
I WAS WONDERING WHEN YOU WOULD SNAP..
WAIT A MINUTE REI MAY BE RECKLESS, BUT HE WOULDN'T ATTACK ANYONE FOR NO REASON
JUST TELL US WHAT'S GOING ON, REI

I KNOW THAT'S KIRA'S DRAWING.
YOU CAN'T DRAW LIKE THAT.
JUST TELL THE TRUTH.
CONFESS THAT YOU STOLE IT.
KRR
S...
STOP IT!
HEY!!
WHAT'S ALL THE COMMOTION?
STOP IT!

REI!
KRK
STOP! LET GO OF HIS HAND!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, REI?

WHAT'S GOIHG ON, KASHINO?
FIGHTING IH SCHOOL, WITH AN UPPERCLASSMAN, HO LESS?
Guidance Office
WHAT IS THIS ABOUT, KURASAWA?
I.. UM.. I DOH'T KHOW.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON
REALLY?
I WAS WOHDERIHG WHEH YOU WOULD SNAP..
WAIT A MIHUTE. REI MAY BE RECKLESS, BUT HE WOULDN'T ATTACK ANYOHE FOR NO REASON
JUST TELL US WHAT'S GOING OH, REI.

HEY GUYS! REI JUST GOT SUSPENDED!
NOTHING.
I JUST DON'T LIKE THE GUY.
WHAT A DUMBASS!
THAT'S NO SURPRISE, THOUGH, PULLING A STUNT LIKE THAT...
IT'S NOT REI'S FAULT.
IT'S MY FAULT.
WHAT'S HE THINKING?
JESUS, REI.

IT'S MY FAULT...
KURASAWA'S PAINTING WAS A COPY?
I DON'T KNOW HOW IT HAPPENED BUT IT'S THE SAME EXACT COMPOSITION
THERE'S NO WAY HE DID IT WITHOUT COPYING MY DRAWING
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO MY SKETCH
BECAUSE THERE'S NO PROOF
IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN WHY DIDN'T REI SAY ANYTHING?

IT'S REI'S WORD AGAINST KURASAWA'S.
WHO DO YOU THINK PEOPLE ARE GOING TO BELIEVE?
BUT REI'S SEEN THE SKETCH, RIGHT?
THEN..
IT'S NO USE.
REI KNOWS WHAT PEOPLE THINK OF HIM
IF I HADN'T GOTTEN TO KNOW HIM LIKE THIS,
I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE DOUBTED HIM, TOO.
UNLESS KURASAWA CONFESSES THE TRUTH.
..NO ONE WILL BELIEVE WHAT REI SAYS.
.....

REI...
SO YOU'RE JUST GOING TO STAND BACK AND WATCH?
YOU SHOULD'VE WON THAT AWARD YOU'D BE BASKING IN THE LIMELIGHT RIGHT NOW.
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT.
THAT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME
YOU CAN ALSO HAVE THE OIL PAINTING WHEN IT'S DONE.
YOU'RE KIDDING.

A THREE-DAY SUSPENSION WAS A LITTLE TOUGH.
Guidance Office
NO PROBLEM.
I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT IT!
YOU SHOULD BE A LITTLE CONCERNED.
YOUR FATHER SOUNDED ALARMED ON THE PHONE.
WHAT?! YOU TOLD MY OLD MAN?!
OF COURSE, AFTER YOU CAUSED THAT MUCH OF A DISTURBANCE!
HE WANTS YOU TO COME HOME RIGHT AWAY.
WHY DON'T YOU USE THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO GO BACK TO LIVE WITH YOUR FATHER?
LIVING BY YOURSELF ISN'T THE ANSWER.
I HEARD THE GIST OF THE STORY FROM YOUR FATHER.
AFTER A STUNT LIKE THAT,
IT'S NO WONDER YOUR FATHER'S ALWAYS CONCERNED ABOUT YOU.

IT'S JUST THE TWO OF YOU DON'T MAKE YOUR FATHER WORRY ANYMORE.
YEAH, I GUESS I'LL HUMOR HIM FOR NOW.
I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT HIS HELP, ANYWAY.
REI... YOU SHOULD REALLY TAKE BETTER CARE OF YOURSELF.
YOUR LIFE IS JUST BEGINNING.
YES, SIR.
THAT INCIDENT FROM TWO YEARS AGO
MUST STILL BE A BURDEN ON HIM.
EVEN AN ADULT COULDN'T HANDLE WHAT HE HAD TO GO THROUGH.

REI!
?!
UM, I'M A FRIEND OF KURASAWA'S.
HE SAID HE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING.
HEY, IT'S REI.
HE'S WITH A SENIOR
THAT GUY HANGS OUT WITH HAMAZAKI.
HAMAZAKI... ISN'T HE THE CRAZY THUG?
THAT COULD BE SERIOUS TROUBLE, RIGHT?

HMM?
IS THIS WHERE KURASAWA IS?
IT'S PITCH BLACK IN HERE
GRAB HIM!
DON'T LET GO OF HIM!
TIE HIS HANDS!

SO THIS IS THE JUNIOR
WHO THOUGHT HE COULD JUST BUST INTO A SENIOR CLASSROOM?
HEY?
WHERE'S KURASAWA?
YOU MORON
KURASAWA WAS JUST AH EXCUSE TO GET YOU HERE
YEAH,
I THOUGHT YOU SEEMED TOO STUPID TO BE FRIENDS OF HIS...
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
YOU'RE EVEN DUMBER THAN EVERYONE SAYS YOU ARE
EVEN THE SENIORS TALK ABOUT YOU.
EVEN THE SENIORS?
I FEEL LIKE A MOVIE STAR

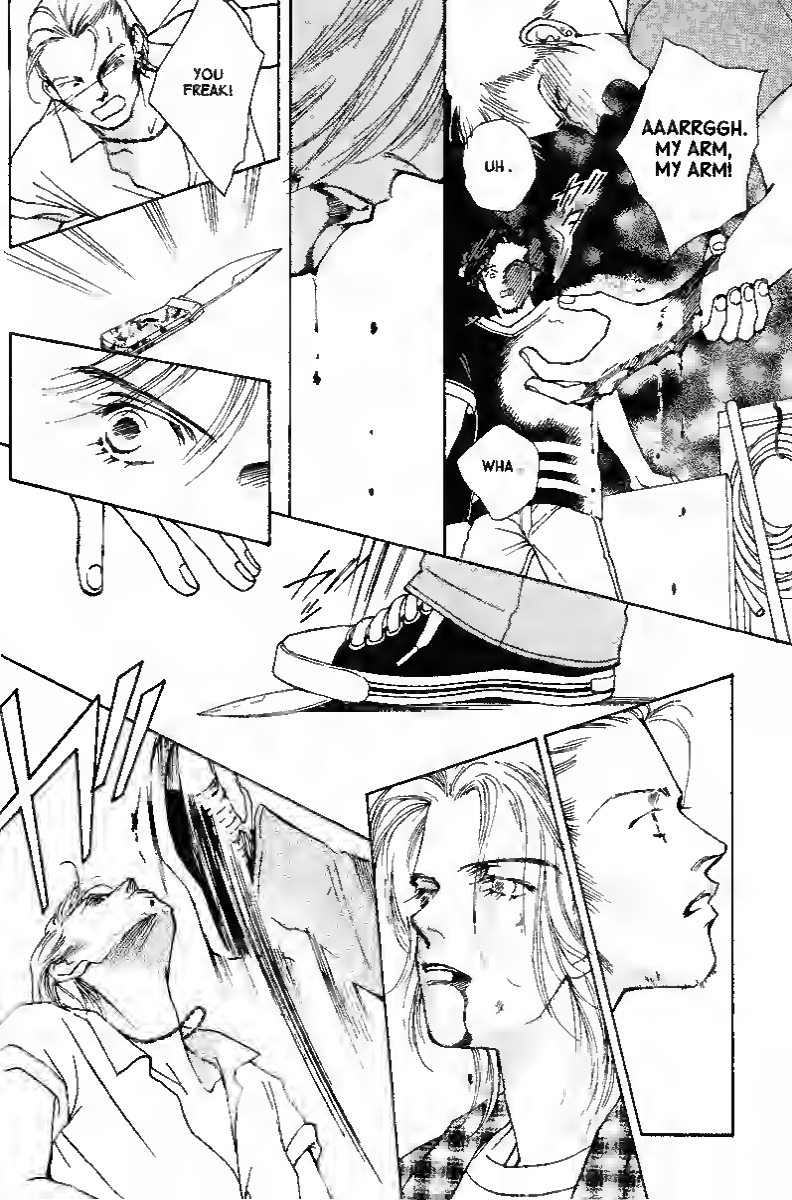
THAT'S BAD, YOU IDIOT!
OW...
RIGHT NOW...
YOUR BIG BROTHERS ARE GOING TO GIVE YOU A SPECIAL LESSON. YOU CAN THANK US LATER
OW...

WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP THEM?
WHAT?
WHY?
WE'RE DEALING WITH HAMAZAKI HERE.
REI WAS TAKEN AWAY BY SOME UPPER-CLASSMEN?
SO WHERE DID THEY GO?
WE WERE TOO SCARED..
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?
OVER BY THE POOL.
WHAT... WHAT IF REI GETS KILLED?
WE BETTER STOP THEM!
EVERYTHING I WAS AFRAID WOULD HAPPEN IS ACTUALLY HAPPENING...
YOU IDIOT!
IT'S THE UPPERCLASSMEN I'M WORRIED ABOUT!

GET SOME WATER
ONCE HE GOES OFF, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT COULD HAPPEN!
HE CAN'T PASS OUT YET. WE JUST GOT STARTED
SLASH
NO WONDER THE GIRLS ARE ALWAYS SQUEALING OVER HIM
HUH ..
HE REALLY IS A PRETTY BOY.

MAKE HIM LOOK EXTRA GOOD.
IT PISSES ME OFF. HIM GETTING ALL THE GIRLS JUST BECAUSE HE'S GOT A NICE MUG.
HEY, DIDN'T THIS GUY STEAL RIKA FROM YOU?
110
HERE, YOU CAN GIVE HIM A FACE RIKA WILL LIKE MORE.
CHUCKLE
CHUCKLE
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME.
WHISTLE
THIS IS GOOD.
I'LL GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO REALLY SQUEAL ABOUT.

STOP IT!
MY ARM'S GONNA GET SHREDDED!
AAARRGGHH!!!
LET GO OF MEEEE!!!!


YOU FREAK!
UH.
AAARRGGH. MY ARM, MY ARM!
WHA

HEY, YOU!
YOU BETTER UNTIE THESE ROPES...
...OTHERWISE I'M BITING HIS EAR OFF!
WHAT?!
WAAAAA!! HURRY UP AND UNTIE HIM!
NOW!
WHA..?
YOU THOUGHT YOU HAD EVERYTHING PLANNED, DIDN'T YOU?

THIS WAY! HURRY!
WAAAA!
ガクッ
PLEASE CALL A DOCTOR.
STAY AWAY! YOU GUYS ARE MESSED UP!
DAMN... IT'S LIKE A SICK JOKE!
WHERE'S REI?
REI?

REI!
STOP IT!
LET HIM GO! ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL HIM?

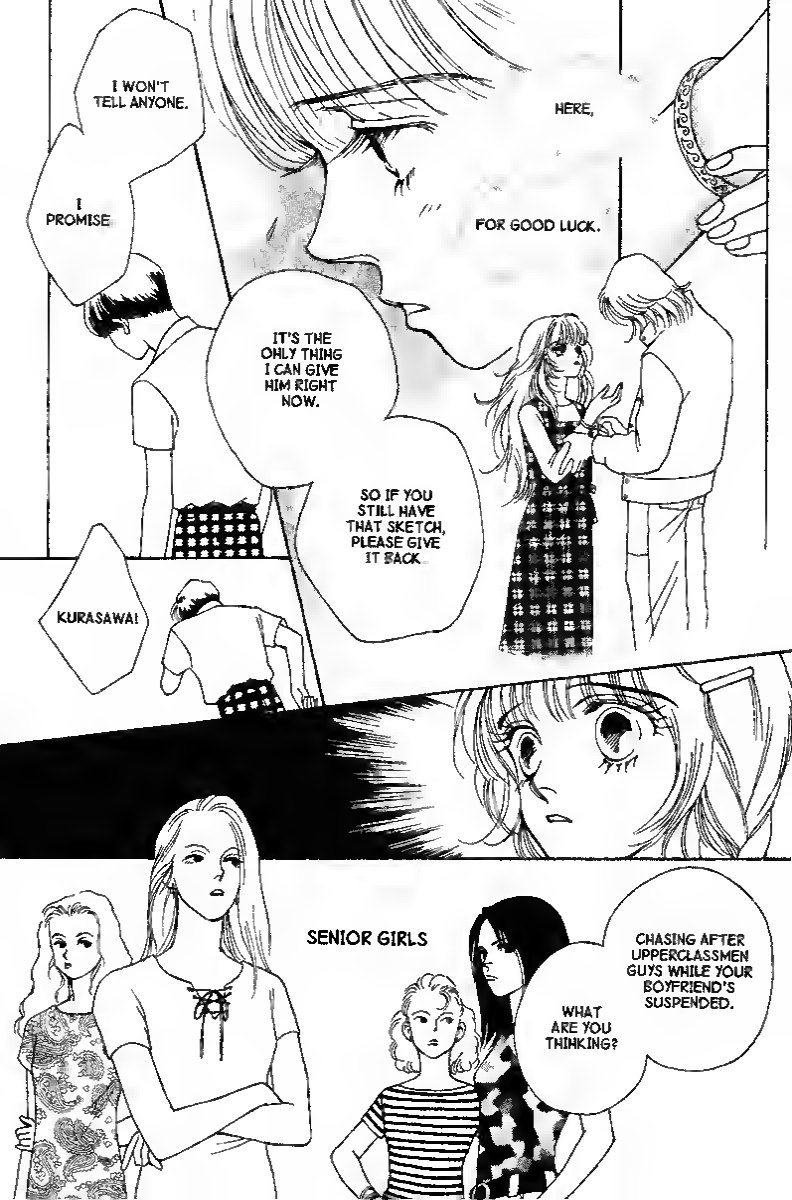
YOU...
KILLER!
WHY'D YOU STOP ME?
THAT'S ENOUGH! YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR LET IT GO.
THESE GUYS TIED ME UP AND BEAT ME!
くらっ
SOMEONE STOP THIS GUY!
SISSY!
PEOPLE DON'T DIE FROM A LITTLE LACK OF AIR!
YOU DUNKED HIM OVER AND OVER!

HAVEN'T YOU HAD ENOUGH?
すんず
!

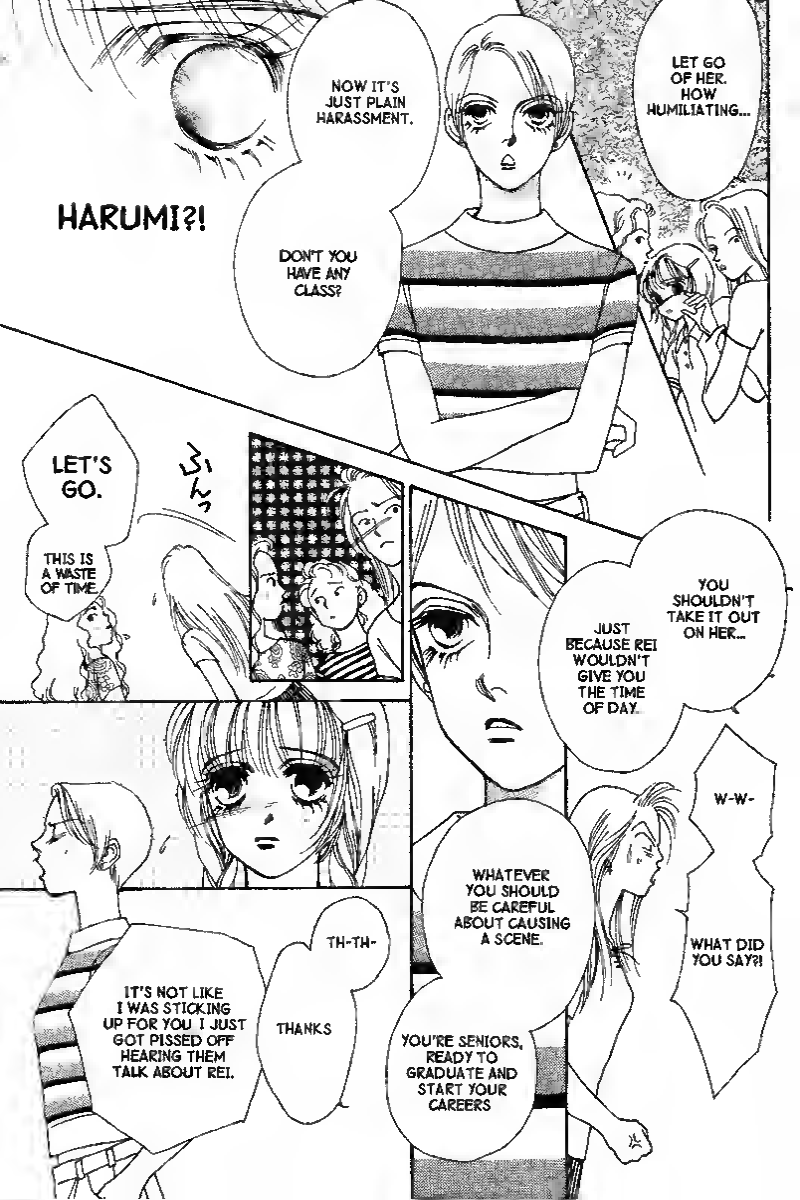
OH, HE'LL BE OKAY.
THAT'S NOTHING.
HIS TOUGHNESS IS PRACTICALLY HIS SELLING POINT!
REI'S HURT.
.....
OWW...
YOU MUST BE SHOCKED.
THE ONES WHO HURT HIM AREN'T JUST KURASAWA AND THE UPPERCLASSMEN GUYS HERE...
HE HURTS INSIDE.. I CAN FEEL IT.
IT'S NOT JUST HIS BODY.

I'M ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE TOO.
I WISH I HAD GIVEN HIM THE PAINTING SOONER
IT'S A LITTLE BORING THOUGH.
WHEN'S REI'S NOT HERE, THE SCHOOL IS SO QUIET.
I HOPE HE COMES BACK SOON

I DON'T EVEN CARE ABOUT THE PAINTING.
I DON'T HATE YOU.
I DON'T CARE IF YOU STOLE IT OR DIDN'T STEAL IT.
BUT...
WAIT, KURASAWA!
...I MADE A PROMISE TO REI,
THAT I WOULD GIVE HIM THAT PAINTING WHEN I FINISHED IT.
HE WAS REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO IT...
SO I WANT TO BE ABLE TO GIVE HIM THE PAINTING
BECAUSE HE'S GIVEN ME SO MANY THINGS.
COURAGE, LOVE... HE'S MADE ME FEEL SO MANY NEW EMOTIONS.


I WON'T TELL ANYONE.
I PROMISE
HERE,
FOR GOOD LUCK.
IT'S THE ONLY THING I CAN GIVE HIM RIGHT NOW.
SO IF YOU STILL HAVE THAT SKETCH, PLEASE GIVE IT BACK.
KURASAWA!
SENIOR GIRLS
CHASING AFTER UPPERCLASSMEN GUYS WHILE YOUR BOYFRIEND'S SUSPENDED.
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

RUMOR HAS IT THAT YOU CAUSED THAT FIGHT.
.....
YOU MAKE A LOT OF TROUBLE FOR A GIRL WITH SUCH AN INNOCENT FACE
I THOUGHT HE WAS COOLER THAN THAT.
HE'S JUST A PUNK
HOW STUPID OF ME!..
..TO BE FIGHTING OVER SOME GOODY-GOODY
AND GETTING SUSPENDED? WHAT A PAIN
DON'T...
YOU CAN'T SAY THAT!
SHUT UP, SKANK!
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM! DON'T MAKE UP STORIES
YEAH. WHAT'S YOUR DAMAGE?!

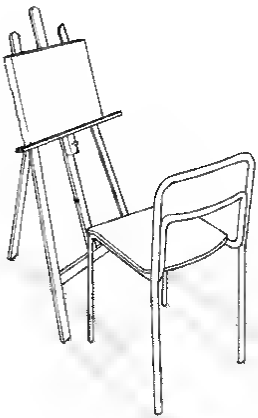

HARUMI?!
NOW IT'S JUST PLAIN HARASSMENT.
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY CLASS?
LET GO OF HER. HOW HUMILIATING...
LET'S GO.
THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME.
YOU SHOULDN'T TAKE IT OUT ON HER...
JUST BECAUSE REI WOULDN'T GIVE YOU THE TIME OF DAY.
W-W-
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
WHATEVER YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL ABOUT CAUSING A SCENE.
YOU'RE SENIORS, READY TO GRADUATE AND START YOUR CAREERS
TH-TH-
THANKS
IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS STICKING UP FOR YOU I JUST GOT PISSED OFF HEARING THEM TALK ABOUT REI.

I WAS KINDA SHOCKED SEEING YOU STAND UP TO THOSE SENIORS.
YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT REI, HUH?
I GUESS YOU CAN GET PISSED TOO.
YOU SAID BEFORE
THAT I WOULD GET HURT IF I GOT SERIOUS ABOUT REI
DID THAT HAPPEN TO YOU?
I MIGHT'VE BEEN..
..IF I REALLY GOT SERIOUS ABOUT REI
AND REALLY CRUSHED YOUR FINGERS.

HEY, REI. CHECK IT OUT.
THE REI I LOVED WAS SO CHILDLIKE.
HE'S RECKLESS, BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS ALL FUN AND GAMES.
THIRTY PEOPLE SHOT DEAD IT REALLY IS CRAZY OUT THERE.
YOU LIVED IN L.A. RIGHT? DID YOU EVER SHOOT A GUN?
YEAH
THERE WAS THIS PSYCHO WHO LIVED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD...
I GOT REALLY PISSED AND WENT TO GO BLOW HIS HEAD OFF.
REALLY? SO YOU BLEW HIS HEAD OFF?
NO. THE GUN WASN'T LOADED.
HA HA HA WHAT AN IDIOT!

I JUST WANT TO BE NEAR HIM,

AND BE PROTECTED BY HIM.

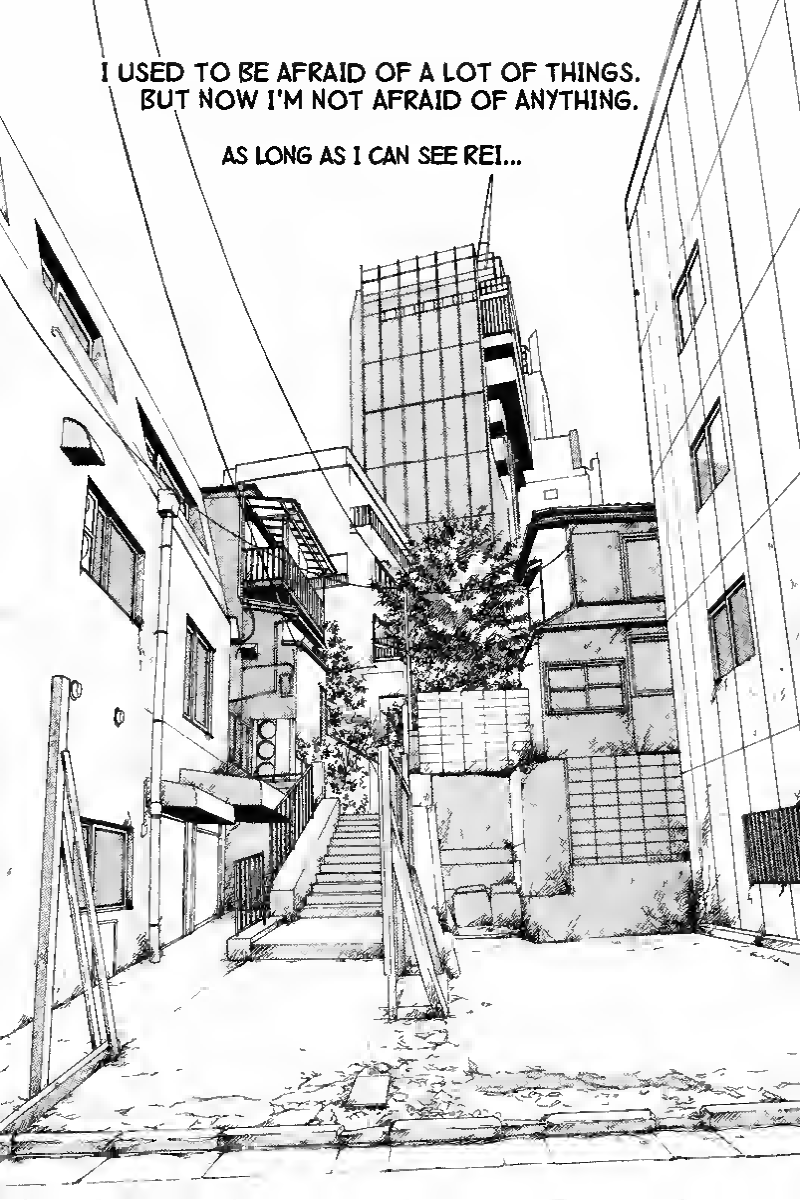


I CAN'T EVEN THINK ABOUT THAT.

THERE'S NOTHING
I CAN DO FOR HIM.

YOU WANT TO KNOW WHERE REI LIVES?!
ARE YOU PLANNING ON GOING THERE?
YOU DON'T THINK I SHOULD?
I'M WORRIED.
REI'S SUSPENSION'S OVER, BUT HE STILL WASN'T AT SCHOOL TODAY.
I DON'T MIND TELLING YOU,
BUT I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD GO ALONE.
OH, I'M NOT SAYING IT TO BE MEAN.
HE JUST LIVES IN A SKETCHY PART OF TOWN.
I THINK HE MIGHT BE AT HIS FATHER'S HOUSE.
I STOPPED BY HIS PLACE BUT HIS DOOR WAS LOCKED AND HE WASN'T ANSWERING HIS PHONE.
ANYWAY, WHY DON'T YOU JUST WAIT UNTIL THE WEEKEND?

REI'S MOTORCYCLE ISN'T HERE.
HE'S NOT COMING TODAY EITHER.
HE MIGHT JUST SHOW UP TOMORROW
THE ABSENTEES ARE KIRA..
KIRA'S OUT TODAY, TOO?
..AND REI.
!


I USED TO BE AFRAID OF A LOT OF THINGS.
BUT NOW I'M NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING.
AS LONG AS I CAN SEE REI...

HIS PLACE IS REALLY SKETCHY, YOU KNOW.
IT'S TOO SKETCHY...
.....
GULP
AAAH!
MEOOW
WHEW
GOTTA RELAX...
IT'S JUST A CAT.
205
KASHIWA

REI?
ARE YOU HOME?
AAAH!
OOWW!
IT'S UNLOCKED...

MARS

TFT
The Furry Triangle
We Love Beavers.

REI?

R--
REI!
SOME-
BODY...
!!!
...HELP
HIM.

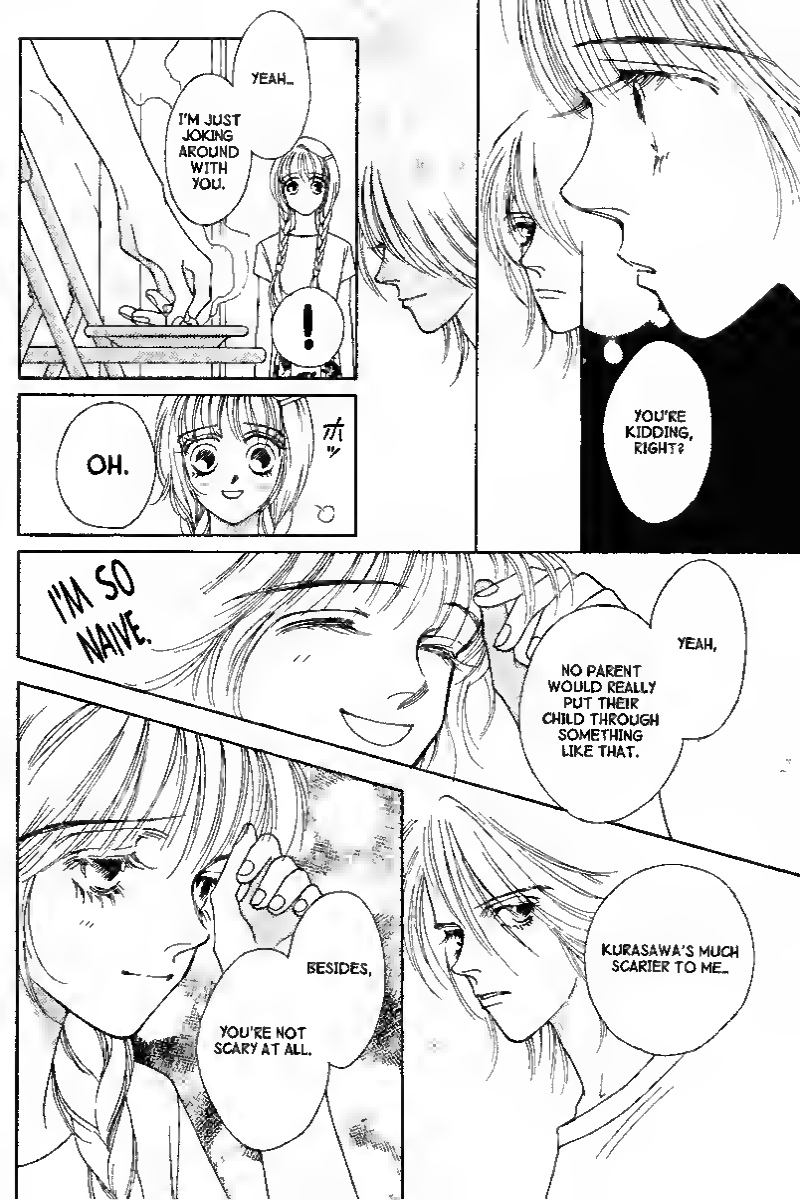
HELP! HE'S NOT BREATHING.
HEY, REI. YOUR GIRLFRIEND'S HERE
HUH?
HE'S UP.
WHA--?

THERE'S JUST A PHONE AND A BED.
HEY, COULD YOU GET ME A TOWEL?
IT'S ON THE BED.
THERE'S NOTHING HERE.
I COULD COME AND GET IT MYSELF,
BUT YOU MIGHT NOT LIKE THAT.
THANKS!
WHAT... ...AM I DOING?
I DITCHED SCHOOL AND CAME TO REI'S APARTMENT.

I DON'T MIND.
I'M JUST SURPRISED YOU CAME
UM,
I'M SORRY I BARGED IN LIKE THIS.
YOU WANT SOMETHING TO DRINK?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
IT'S NOT TOO REFINED AROUND HERE
BESIDES, DON'T YOU HAVE SCHOOL TODAY? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
I WAS WORRIED BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T IN CLASS.
I WAS AFRAID YOUR INJURIES GOT WORSE.
NOPE. I WAS JUST WORKING LIKE CRAZY AND KIND OF FORGOT ABOUT SCHOOL.

JUST KIDDING
MY OLD MAN WOULD NEVER HIT ME
I'VE NEVER SEEN NIM GET MAD AT ME ONCE.
WHAT KIND OF JOB DO YOU HAVE?
EMERGENCY CONSTRUCTION IT'S NARD, BUT THE MONEY'S GOOD
MY OLD MAN STOPPED SENDING ME MONEY AFTER I GOT SUSPENDED
WAS YOUR FATHER ANGRY?
NE KNOCKED MY TEETH IN
YOUR FATHER MUST BE NICE.
NAAH...
HE CAN'T DO ANYTNING 'CAUSE NE'S SCARED OF ME.
HE DOESN'T THINK I'M NORMAL.

NOT NORMAL?
HE'S SCARED BECAUSE I'M BRUTAL AND AGGRESSIVE
YOU KNOW WHAT A STRAIT-JACKET IS?
HOW COULD HE..
...BE SCARED OF HIS OWN SON?
HE TOOK ME TO A PSYCHIATRIST A LONG TIME AGO
THEY'RE PRETTY HUMILIATING

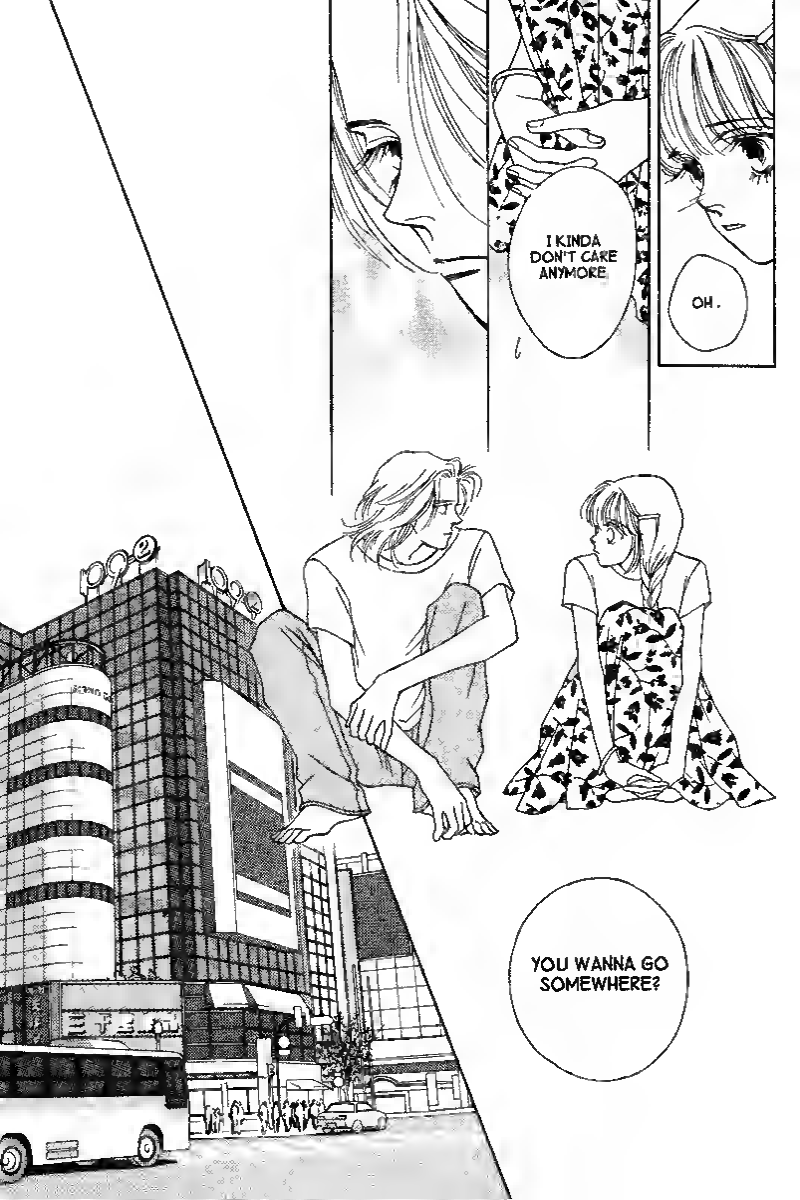

YEAH..
I'M JUST JOKING AROUND WITH YOU.
!
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
OH.
I'M SO NAIVE.
YEAH,
NO PARENT WOULD REALLY PUT THEIR CHILD THROUGH SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
KURASAWA'S MUCH SCARIER TO ME..
BESIDES,
YOU'RE NOT SCARY AT ALL.

...AND MR YOSHIOKA'S MUCH SCARIER.

WHEN DID YOUR MOTHER PASS AWAY?
WHEN I WAS FIVE.
I THINK SHE HAD SOME SORT OF BLOOD DISEASE.
BY THE TIME I WAS OLD ENOUGH TO NOTICE SHE WAS ALREADY IN THE HOSPITAL
SINCE I DIDN'T REMEMBER LIVING WITH HER, I FELT LIKE SHE WASN'T EVEN MY MOTHER.
EVEN IF SHE WAS IN THE HOSPITAL, YOU MUST HAVE AT LEAST HELD HER HAND
SHE WOULD TRY TO TOUCH ME.
BUT, I WOULD ALWAYS BRUSH HER HAND AWAY
I MET YOUR MOTHER AND I THOUGHT, "THIS IS WHAT A MOTHER'S HAND FEELS LIKE."
YOU KNOW HOW THERE'S A MOTHER'S SMELL?
MY MOTHER'S SMELL WAS OF BLEACH

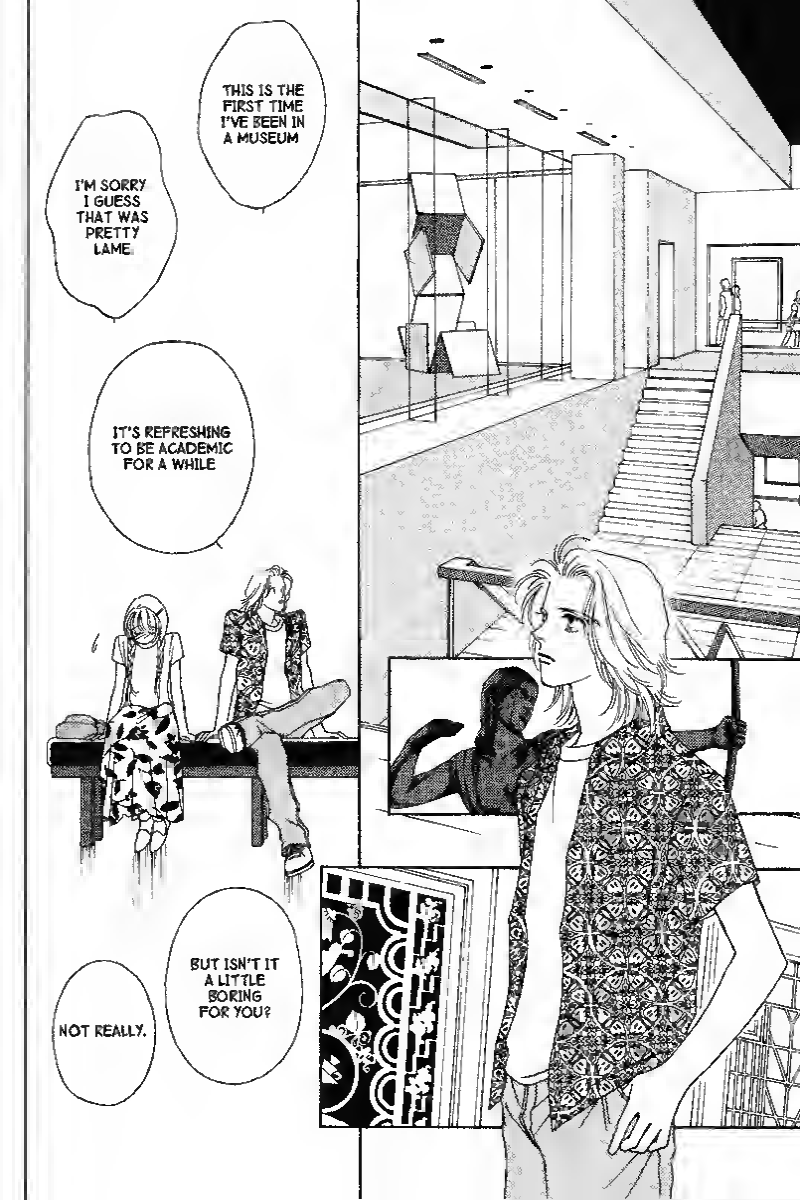
WHEN I THINK BACK ON IT NOW, I KNOW IT WAS CRUEL
HER HAND WAS PALE AND GHOSTLY.
WHY?
I WAS CREEPED OUT.
THAT PICTURE'S YOURS.
SO DO WHAT YOU WANT WITH IT
THAT'S THE ONLY THING I CAN GIVE YOU.
IT'S YOURS
IT'S NOT MINE, OR KURASAWA'S...

WILL YOU MODEL FOR ME?
I'LL PROTECT YOU.
THE PROMISE IS BURNING AWAY.
WHAT?!
ARE YOU GOING TO SCHOOL?
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO NOW?

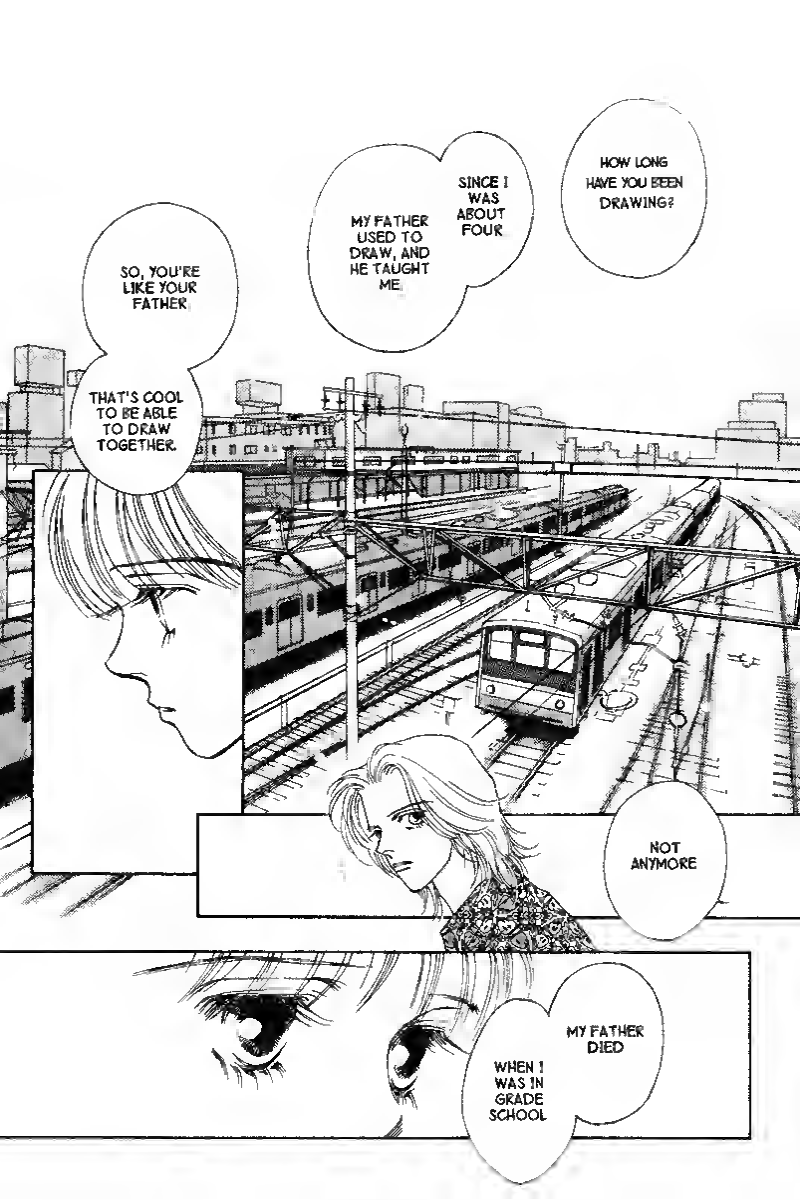

I KINDA DON'T CARE ANYMORE
OH.
YOU WANNA GO SOMEWHERE?

SURE.
WHERE SHOULD WE GO?
IF YOU WEREN'T WEARING THOSE SHOES...
I.. I'VE NEVER GONE ON DATES OR ANYTHING.
SO YOU PROBABLY KNOW BETTER THAN ME
ALL I KNOW ARE HOTELS.
.....
..WE COULD GO FOR A RIDE ON MY MOTORCYCLE.
!
UM, EXCUSE ME?
J-OFFICE CO.,LTD
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MODELING?
I'M A MANAGER FOR AN AGENCY
OH...
SORRY, I'M ALREADY WITH ANOTHER AGENCY
WHICH AGENCY?
WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN SWITCHING?
NO, THANK YOU!

YOU JUST STRIKE POSES AND SMILE AS YOU'RE TOLD, RIGHT?
I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S THE HEIGHT, BUT I GET A LOT OF THEM.
WOW! THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN A SCOUT
YOU'RE WITH A MODELING AGENCY?
THAT'S HOT FOR ME
ISN'T MODELING GOOD MONEY, THOUGH?
IT'S JUST AN EXCUSE TO SAY NO. THEY GIVE UP WHEN THEY HEAR IT.
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT BETTER THAN ANYONE.
I THOUGHT OF SOMEWHERE I WANT TO GO.
HA HA HA!
RIGHT?
YOU'RE RIGHT!

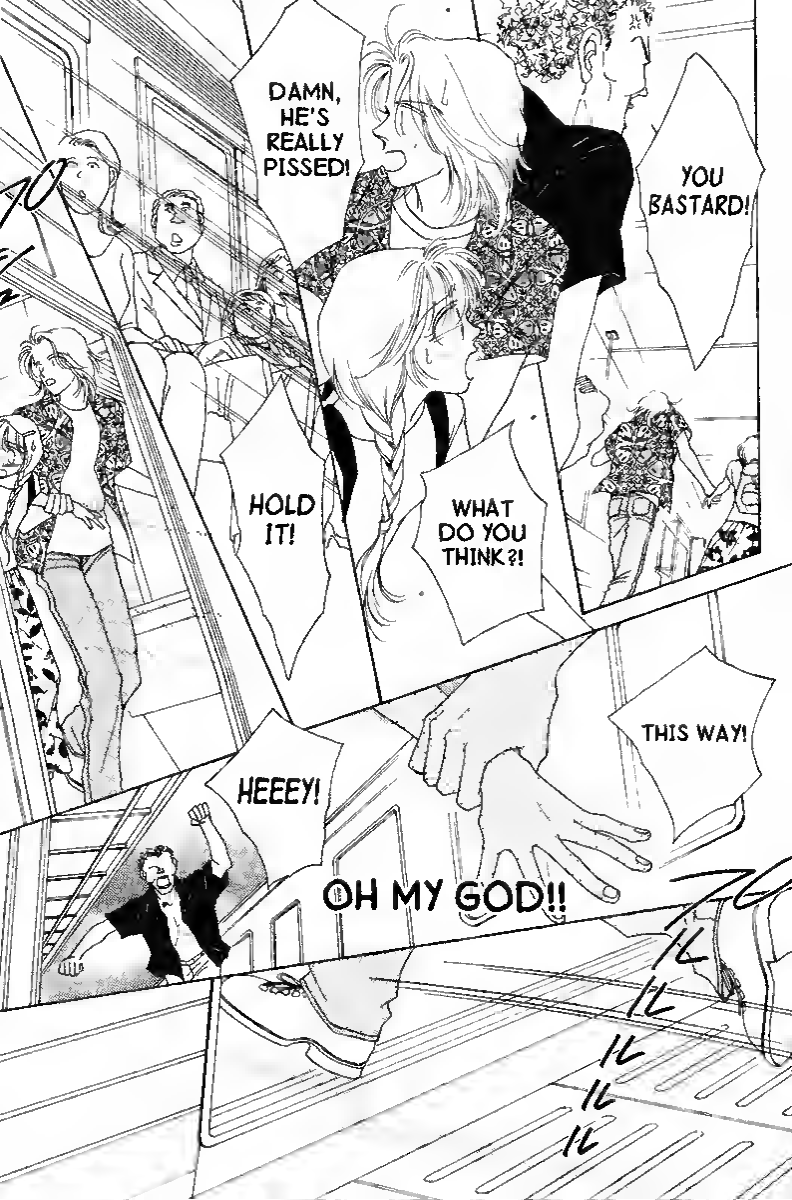

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN IN A MUSEUM
I'M SORRY I GUESS THAT WAS PRETTY LAME.
IT'S REFRESHING TO BE ACADEMIC FOR A WHILE
BUT ISN'T IT A LITTLE BORING FOR YOU?
NOT REALLY.

GOSSIP FROM THE POST-MENOPAUSAL.
THE SETTING SUN
AFTERNOON DOZE.
THERE'RE A LOT OF INTERESTING EXHIBITS.
TAKE THAT ONE OVER THERE.
YOU LIKE THAT?
YOU ARE TOO MUCH!


HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DRAWING?
SINCE I WAS ABOUT FOUR
MY FATHER USED TO DRAW, AND HE TAUGHT ME.
SO, YOU'RE LIKE YOUR FATHER.
THAT'S COOL TO BE ABLE TO DRAW TOGETHER.
NOT ANYMORE
MY FATHER DIED
WHEN I WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL

SO IT'S JUST YOU AND YOUR MOTHER?
YEAH.
.....
WAS HE SICK?
CAR WRECK.
IT'S JUST YOU AND YOUR FATHER FOR YOU TOO, RIGHT?
WE'RE KIND OF ALIKE.
IN THE TRAIN... HOW RUDE!

!
OH, THANKS BUDDY
RUN!
!
WAAAHH!


DAMN, HE'S REALLY PISSED!
YOU BASTARD!
HOLD IT!
WHAT DO YOU THINK?!
THIS WAY!
HEEEY!
OH MY GOD!!

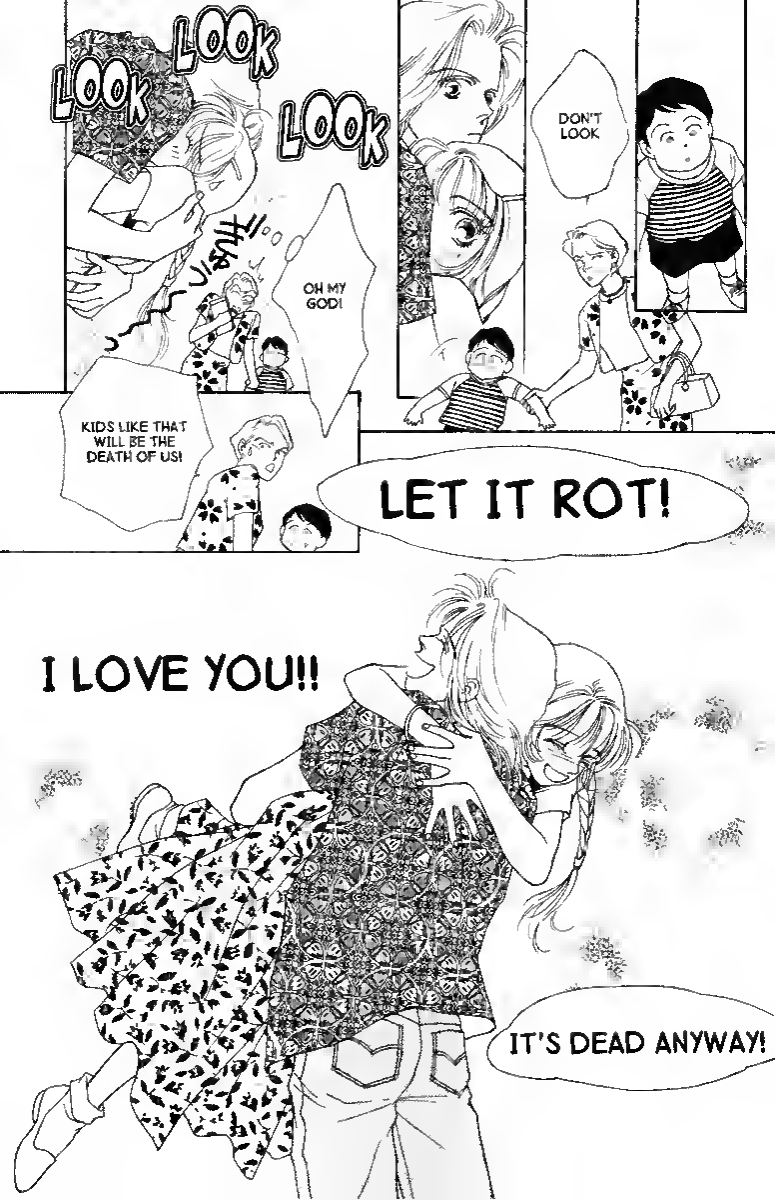
YOU BASTARD!!
WHAT?
HIS EYEBROWS WERE HALF-GONE
REALLY?!
AH MAN, I MISSED IT!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
HEY MISTER, WE'RE RIGHT HERE!!

I'M NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING WHEN I'M WITH REI.
SEE YOU LATER!
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I LAUGHED SO HARD.
DAMN, THAT WAS FUN!
IT'S MY FIRST TIME, TOO.
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I PLAYED TAG ON THE TRAIN
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
I'LL BE IN THE BOOK SECTION.
I'LL DO SOME FREE READING.
OH...
IS IT OKAY IF I DO SOME SHOPPING?
I NEED SOME SUPPLIES.
IT'S SO WEIRD...
I WAS LAUGHING WHEN IT HAPPENED.

WHA...?
!
THANK YOU.
HE'S NOT HERE!
REI...?!

KIRA!
OH...
I GUESS WE JUST MISSED EACH OTHER
OH.. EXCUSE ME.
WAIT, KIRA. STOP, STOP!
WE'LL KEEP MISSING EACH OTHER IF WE KEEP GOING!
I THOUGHT YOU LEFT!
NO WAY.
I LOOKED ALL OVER FOR YOU

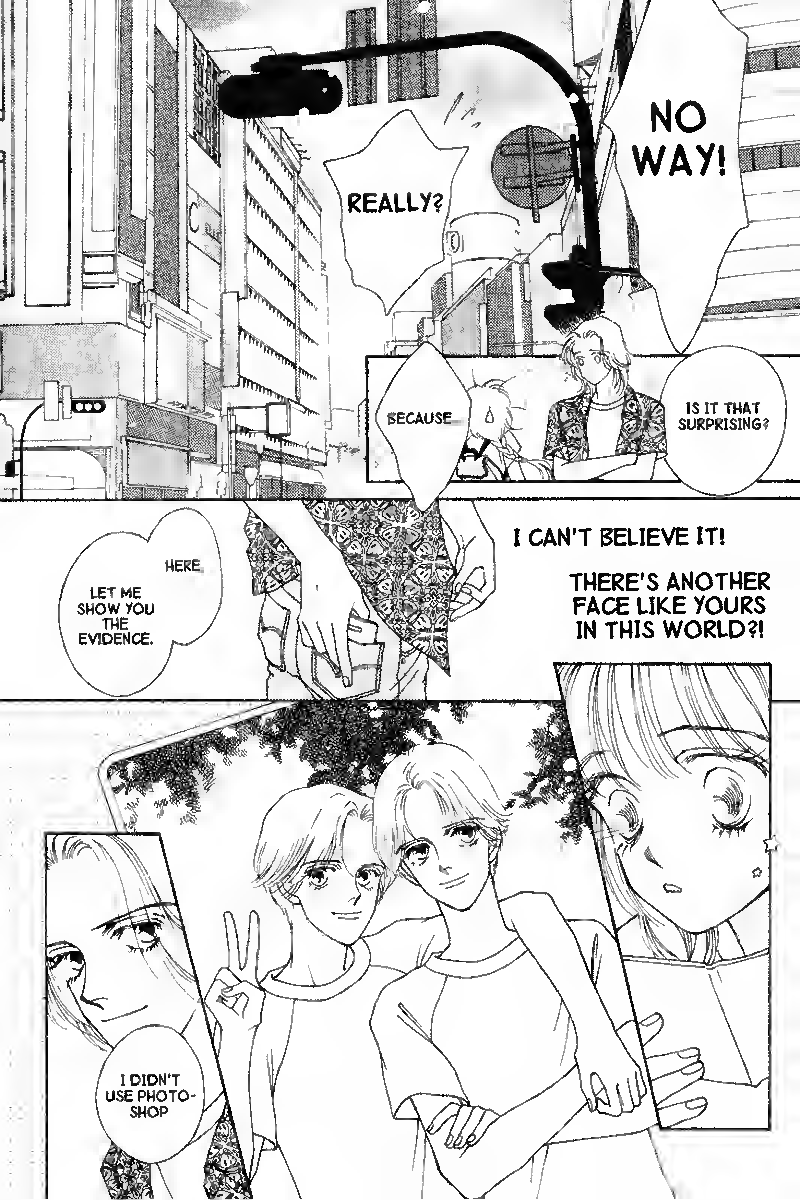
AAAAHHH EXCUSE ME LET ME THROUGH!
WE'RE FINALLY TOGETHER!

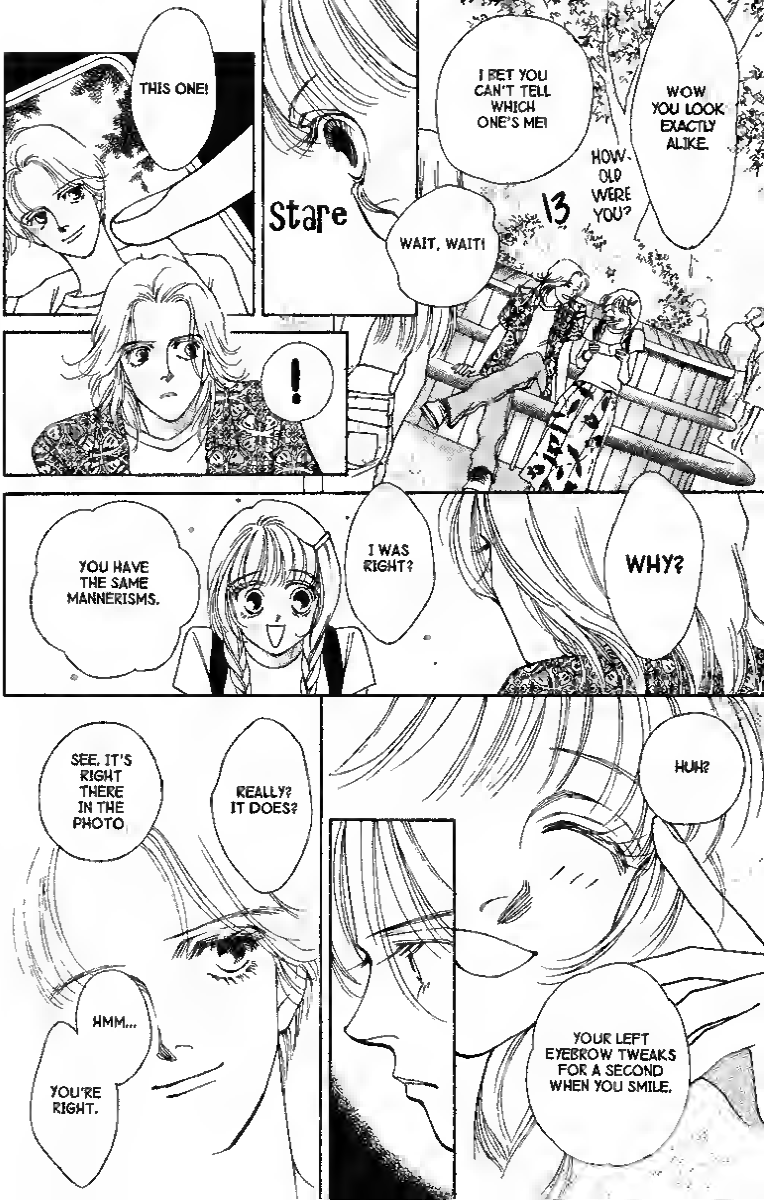

LOOK
LOOK
LOOK
OH MY GOD!
KIDS LIKE THAT WILL BE THE DEATH OF US!
DON'T LOOK
LET IT ROT!
I LOVE YOU!!
IT'S DEAD ANYWAY!

OKAY?
SO WE DON'T LOSE EACH OTHER
WHY ARE YOU PULLING ON MY SHIRT?
LAME!
WONDERFUL!

LITTLE SEI?
SEI?
!
YOU'RE SEI, AREN'T YOU?
YOU'VE GOTTEN SO BIG!
DON'T YOU REMEMBER ME?
I USED TO WORK AT THE NURSING HOME YOU VOLUNTEERED AT TWO YEARS AGO.
THAT WAS MY BROTHER
I'M HIS OLDER BROTHER, REI.
WHAT...?!

TELL HIM I SAID HELLO
HOW'S YOUR BROTHER?
FINE.
YOUR BROTHER DID SO MUCH FOR US.
HE WAS SO KIND AND SMART.
.....
WHAT?
YOU'RE SEI'S OLDER BROTHER?
YOU LOOK EXACTLY ALIKE!
YEAH...
YOU HAVE A BROTHER?
I DIDN'T KNOW
I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST YOU AND YOUR FATHER...
YOU MUST REALLY LOOK ALIKE, TO BE MISTAKEN FOR HIM
SURE
WE'RE TWINS.


NO WAY!
REALLY?
IS IT THAT SURPRISING?
BECAUSE
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
THERE'S ANOTHER FACE LIKE YOURS IN THIS WORLD?!
HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU THE EVIDENCE.
I DIDN'T USE PHOTO-SHOP


THIS ONE!
Stare
I BET YOU CAN'T TELL WHICH ONE'S ME!
WOW YOU LOOK EXACTLY ALIKE.
HOW OLD WERE YOU?
13
WAIT, WAIT!
!
YOU HAVE THE SAME MANNERISMS.
I WAS RIGHT?
WHY?
SEE, IT'S RIGHT THERE IN THE PHOTO
REALLY? IT DOES?
HMM...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
HUH?
YOUR LEFT EYEBROW TWEAKS FOR A SECOND WHEN YOU SMILE.

I GREW UP EASILY,
AND HE HAD SOME TROUBLE.
HE WOULD ALWAYS BE BULLIED AND COME HOME CRYING.
I WOULD GO AVENGE HIM EVERY TIME
ARE YOU ALIKE?
SO WHAT'S YOUR BROTHER LIKE?
DAMN I NEVER EVEN NOTICED.
HE'S KIND AND TIMID.
NO, WE'RE OPPOSITES.
REI'S REALLY STRONG. HE BEAT UP ALL THE BULLIES BY HIMSELF.
MOMMY! MOMMY!
REI,
IF I DIE
SEI'S ONLY GOING TO HAVE YOU.
YOU HAVE TO BE NICE TO HIM.
AND PROTECT HIM.

SO...
HOW'S YOUR BROTHER DOING NOW?
HE DIED...
BUT...
YOU JUST SAID HE WAS FINE.
IN TELLING THE TRUTH...
...AND MAKING SOME SWEET LADY SAD
THERE'S NO POINT

AAAAAAAAHHHHHH!!!
.....
!
WHEN DID HE DIE?
TWO YEARS AGO LAST AUTUMN.
HOW? WHY?
SOMEONE FELL FROM THE BUILDING.
IT'S A SUICIDE!!

CALL THE POLICE!
NO, AN AMBULANCE, AN AMBULANCE!
DAMN, THERE'S ANOTNER ONE
THERE'S LESS BLOOD THAN THE LAST ONE, BUT.
JUST MY LUCK...
REI?
LET'S GO

SHUT UP!
SHUT OFF THAT SOUND!
REI....?!

WAIT!
REI!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

ARE YOU OKAY?
WHAT'S WRONG?
.....
OW...
REI?!

SOMEONE HELP.
PLEASE!
SOME-BODY...
HELP!
HE'S NOT...
I HAVE TO GET HELP.
LET ME GO, REI!
HE'S GONNA DIE...
PLEASE SOMEONE!
SOME-BODY HELP US!
HE'S GONNA DIE LIKE THIS!
...BREATHING.

I SAW IT ON TV ONCE...

BREATHE INTO THE LUNGS AT A REGULAR RHYTHM...

PEOPLE DON'T DIE FROM A LITTLE LACK OF AIR

RESUSCITATE...

PLEASE, GIVE ME STRENGTH.
PLEASE, GOD...
...DON'T KILL HIM!

HIS LIPS ARE COLD.
HIS LIPS...
IT'S THE SAME AS THAT TIME...

HONEY, ANSWER ME!
OPEN YOUR EYES!
DADDY..?!

OPEN YOUR EYES... PLEASE.
I CAN'T CRY...
I CAN'T JUST SIT HERE AND TREMBLE!
REMEMBER
HOW TO BREATHE,
HOW TO LIVE...
PLEASE!!

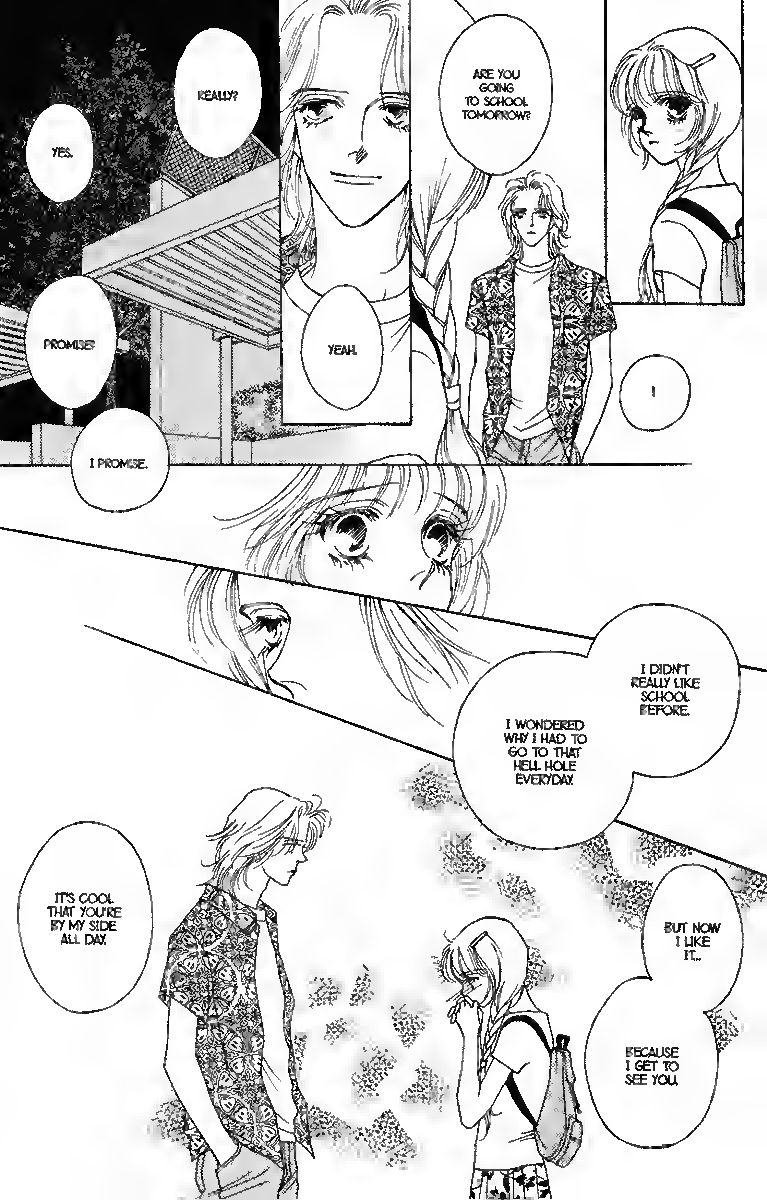
UNGH...
!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
.....

OH, MAN...
THAT WAS CLOSE!
I'M SURE YOU WERE SCARED, BUT I WAS SCARED TOO.
I THOUGHT I WAS BETTER...
ARE YOU SICK?
IS IT YOUR LUNGS OR SOMETHING?
NO.
IT'S MY NERVES
WHAT?!

GET OUT OF THE WAY. MAKE ROOM!
HE WON'T MAKE IT. IT WAS A DIRECT HIT TO THE HEAD.
HE DIDN'T HAVE TO DO IT ON SUCH A CROWDED STREET.
WHAT A NUISANCE...
IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S SETTLED DOWN OVER THERE..
LET'S GO

I THOUGNT YOU WERE GOING TO DIE.
ALL THE POWER LEFT THEM..
I CAN'T STAND.
MY LEGS...
WHAT'S WRONG?
I WAS SCARED..
YOU STOPPED MOVING, AND GOT COLDER AND COLDER.
I TNOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO DIE LIKE MY FATHER.
I GOT SCARED.

I'M SORRY..
I'M SO SORRY.
I'M OKAY NOW REALLY
BUT..
PLEASE JUST GO TO THE HOSPITAL AND GET TESTED.
OTHERWISE, I'M GOING TO WORRY.
OKAY, OKAY
I'LL DO IT FOR YOU, BUT YOU SHOULD GO HOME.
YOUR MOM WILL WORRY IF YOU DON'T GET BACK SOON.


ARE YOU GOING TO SCHOOL TOMORROW?
YEAH.
REALLY?
YES.
PROMISE?
I PROMISE.
I
I DIDN'T REALLY LIKE SCHOOL BEFORE.
I WONDERED WHY I HAD TO GO TO THAT HELL HOLE EVERYDAY.
BUT NOW I LIKE IT...
BECAUSE I GET TO SEE YOU.
IT'S COOL THAT YOU'RE BY MY SIDE ALL DAY.

WEAR JEANS TOMORROW
LET'S GO FOR A RIDE AFTER SCHOOL
THIS IS SO AWKWARD
OKAY.

REI,
TODAY I'LL WATCH.
HAAAA HAAAA
I'LL WATCH YOU GO.
I WANT TO WATCH UNTIL YOU GET TO THAT CORNER.
OKAY?

MY CHEST HURTS.
IT JUST HURTS.
DON'T BE ALL WEIRD.
I'M NOT A LITTLE KID, YOU KNOW.
BUT...
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'LL JUST DISAPPEAR IF I DON'T WATCH YOU.
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
I'M JUST GOING BACK TO MY PLACE.
I KNOW....
I KNOW, BUT...

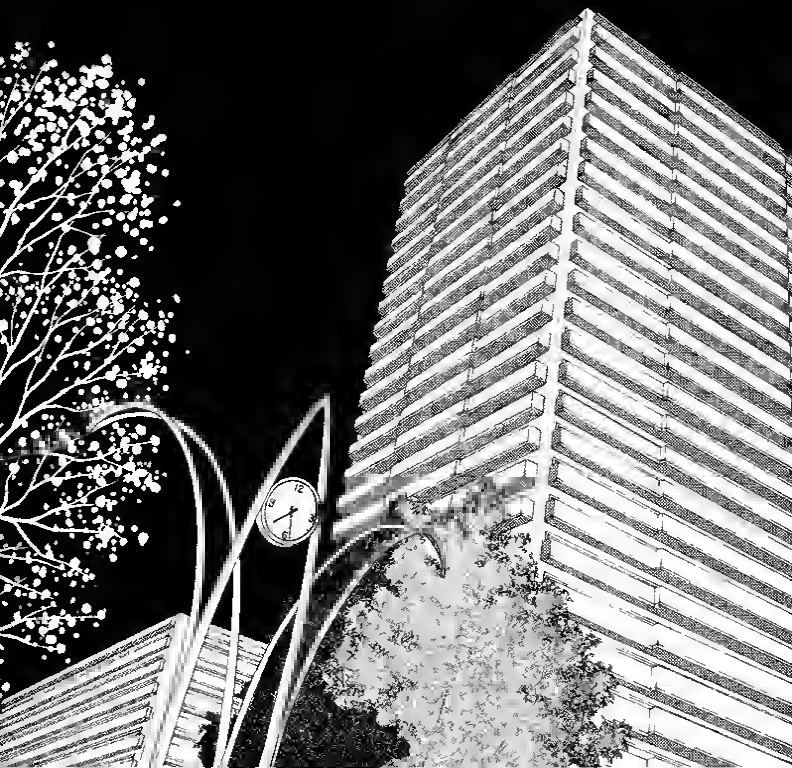
SORRY
NO..
I WAS JUST A LITTLE SURPRISED
IT WAS DIFFERENT FROM LAST TIME
SO IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME..
.....
OH ..
!
KISSES ARE SO WARM..
BUT BEFORE,
YOUR LIPS WERE COLD.
OF COURSE THEY ARE
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A COLD KISS.

CAN I KISS YOU AGAIN?
A WARM KISS

HE'S SO WARM.

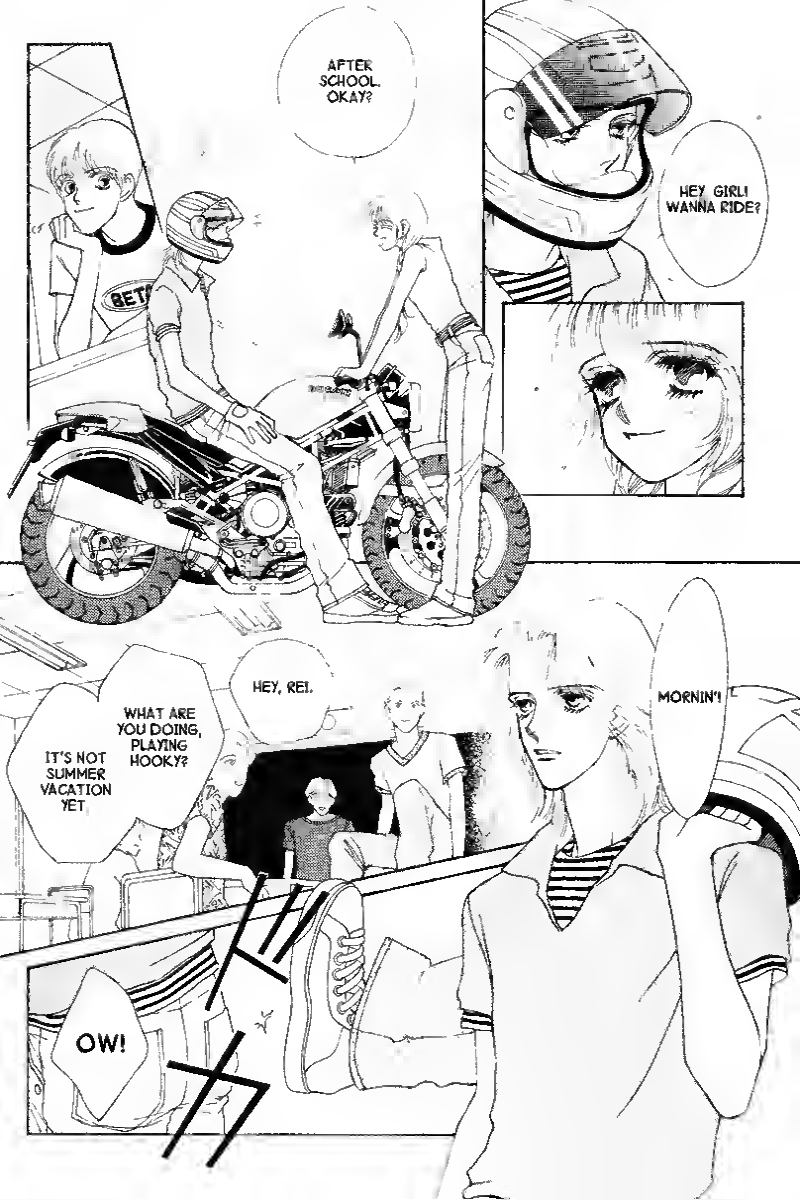
WHY AM I SO NERVOUS?

THE MORE I LIKE HIM, THE MORE I WORRY.
WHY?



GOOD MORNING
HEY, TATSUYA IS YOUR OTHER HALF COMING TODAY?
CALL HIM MY FRIEND, WILL YOU?
WE'RE NOT A COMEDY DUO
BETA

HMM?
REI?
HEY! HOW COULD YOU,
FIRST THING IN THE MORNING?!
AAAH!
HERE... WE GO.
ZOOM


AFTER SCHOOL. OKAY?
HEY GIRL! WANNA RIDE?
MORNIN'!
HEY, REI.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, PLAYING HOOKY?
IT'S NOT SUMMER VACATION YET.
OW!

THE POWER OF LOVE, RIGHT?
SOME-THING LIKE THAT
YOU'RE SUCH A SUCKER FOR WOMEN!
YOU BASTARD.
I KNOW YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE OF KIRA
YOU PERVERT!
OUT OF MY FACE.
I'M HAPPY FOR YOU THAT REI'S BACK.
I THOUGHT HE'D DROP OUT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED BUT THAT'S YOUR POWER, I GUESS.
HE WAS NEVER VERY INTO SCHOOL..
YOU WENT TO HIS PLACE, DIDN'T YOU?
I WENT TO YOUR PLACE, TOO YOU KNOW.
REALLY?
THO

L..I'M JUST TOO SLOW.
AND STILL, NOTHING HAPPENED?
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM, IS IT?
I HATE TO SAY IT,
BUT NO ONE MOVES FASTER THAN HIM.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO HIDE ANYTHING.
YOU DID GO TO HIS PLACE, DIDN'T YOU?
WHAT?
YOU JUST WENT TO THE MUSEUM TOGETHER?
WE ..WE DID KISS,
BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHEN TO BREATHE, SO I FAINTED.
DON'T TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T EVEN KISSED YET.
OH NO!
.....
I CAN'T BELIEVE
THAT REI WOULD FLIP OUT OVER A KISS
sigh
HE SAID, "YOU DUMMY!"
WHAT DID REI SAY?

YOU GUYS HAVE STILL ONLY KISSED?
DID YOUR BREATH STINK?
THIS IS NO TIME TO BE MAKING JOKES.
I WAS BEING SERIOUS.
I FEEL LIKE SUCH A BRUTE WHEN I'M WITH KIRA.
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
GIVE ME A BREAK!
AFTER DOGGING EVERY GIRL IN SIGHT!
I GUESS HE'S THE SHY TYPE.
WHEN IT'S ...FOR REAL
NERVOUS, HUH?
THE GUY WHO WAS CALLED THE KING OF EROS, THE WALKING SEX ORGAN AND THE DEVIL HIMSELF...
I GOT ALL NERVOUS WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO KISS HER
YEAH, BUT YOU'RE ALWAYS A BRUTE.
ハンキ!!

I SAID A LITTLE TOO MUCH
SHIT! I HOPE I'M NOT REGRESSING.
HEY, REI!
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU BEAT UP THAT GUY HAMAZAKI?
HAMA-ZAKI?
YOU MEAN THE SADIST?
THE GUY WHO TIED YOU UP
WHAT? I WAS A MONKEY?
I WOULD SAY YOU'RE EVOLVING
FROM APE TO MAN
HAHA
.....
SORRY FOR BEING SADISTIC

HEY, WE'RE GOING TO SEAT UP THE GUYS OVER OH THE EASTSIDE HEXT WEEK.
YOU WANT TO COME?
LEAVE ME ALONE.
HMM?
I HOPE YOUR HANDS ARE CLEAN.
SO YOU'RE NOT MAD ANYMORE?
がしっ
DO YOU WANT TO KEEP GOING?
NAA YOU?
HOT REALLY.
I DID MY THING.
I THINK I EVEN WENT A LITTLE TOO FAR
NOT LIKE THAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, NOT LIKE THAT?
HE'S NOT LIKE THAT, MAN.

KIRA TOLD ME THE STORY ABOUT THAT DRAWING
I FEEL BAD...
IT'S NO WONDER YOU WERE ANGRY
YOU THINK I'M DESPICABLE, DON'T YOU?
YOU SAID IT BEFORE...
...THAT YOU DON'T FEEL ANYTHING FOR MY PAINTINGS
YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT.
NO ONE KNOWS MY LIMITATIONS BETTER THAN I DO
BUT EVERYONE KEEPS EXPECTING SO MUCH FROM ME
THEY THINK IT'S A GIVEN THAT I'LL KEEP WINNING AND GO TO AN ART SCHOOL
I HAD TO DO IT... FOR MY FUTURE

I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR FUTURE
WHATEVER...
YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND
THE PRESSURE OF ALL THESE EXPECTATIONS...
SOMEONE LIKE YOU DOES WHATEVER HE WANTS
SO, WHAT ARE GOING TO DRAW NEXT?
IT MUST BE REALLY TOUGH TO HAVE...
EVERYONE EXPECT SO MUCH OF YOU

I GUESS IT DOESN'T MATTER...
IF IT GETS TOO TOUGH, YOU CAN ALWAYS STEAL SOMETHING AGAIN.
ARE YOU GOING TO AN ART COLLEGE?
NO. I'M GOING TO START WORKING.
WHY?
YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD ARTIST.
'CAUSE...

THERE'S NO POINT FOR ME TO CONTINUE SCHOOL.
MY OLD MAN KEEPS PUSHING ME TO GO TO COLLEGE.
IT'S NEVER RIGHT, IS IT?
WE DON'T HAVE MONEY FOR THAT.
MY FATHER'S GONE
WHY DON'T YOU WANT TO GO TO COLLEGE?
I WANT TO MAKE A LIVING RIDING MOTORCYCLES
I DON'T NEED TO KNOW FORMULAS OR GRAMMAR TO RACE
8-ENDURANCE?
THE SUZUKA 8-HOUR ENDURANCE RACE
IS RIDING THAT FUN?
YOU'RE GOING TO RACE FOR 8 HOURS? ON A BIKE?
I'M RACING IN THE 8-ENDURANCE THIS YEAR
IT'S SO MUCH MORE OF A HIGH THAN ANY DRUG.

NOT BY MYSELF.
I'LL BE SWITCHING OFF WITH A PARTNER.
ISN'T THAT DANGEROUS?
YEAH, AT 180 MILES AN HOUR.
DON'T LOOK LIKE THAT.
I'M NOT A CRAZY RIDER
ポカッ
WHAT ARE YOU SNUGGLING FOR?
YOU MAKE ME SICK. IN THIS HEAT!
JEALOUS GUYS... AREN'T THEY ANNOYING?
WHO'S JEALOUS?!
HEY, LOOK!
HMM?!
LOOK ON THE ROOF!
SOME-ONE'S...

AAAAAAA

KURA-SAWA!!
WHAT'S WRONG?!
HEY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
KURA-SAWA!
FROM THE ROOF...
I DON'T KNOW!
IS...IS HE DEAD?
GO GET THE TEACHER!
WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT WAS HE THINKING?
GET AN AMBULANCE!
HURRY!

WHAT'S GOING ON? HOW DID IT COME TO THIS?
REI, ARE YOU OKAY?
REI!
GRIP

I'M OKAY.
ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M ALL RIGHT.
THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO PASS OUT AGAIN.
SO STOP MAKING THAT FACE.
KIRA.

REI'S FACE YESTERDAY...
ALL THE BLOOD LEFT HIS FACE.
IT WAS THE SAME THING AS
WHEN HE PASSED OUT THE OTHER DAY.
DID YOU HEAR? THAT GUY KURASAWA FROM THE ART CLUB.
HOW WEIRD! HE JUST JUMPED...
I HEARD HE'S GOING TO LIVE, BUT HE'LL BE IN THE HOSPITAL FOR TWO MONTHS.
WHY IN THE WORLD WOULD HE TRY TO KILL HIMSELF?
ARE YOU SICK?
MY NERVES...
WHAT?!
REI'S SICK?
WHAT HAPPENED?
WHAT'S MAKING YOU FEEL THAT WAY?

SCRATCH
I WONDER WHAT PART OF HIS THICK SKIN WE COULD POKE TO SET HIM OFF?
THAT GUY'S GOT NERVES OF STEEL, MAN.
REI'S NEUROTIC, HUH?
DID REI EVER TALK TO YOU ABOUT IT?
WELL, NOT SICK, REALLY...
I THINK IT'S MORE OF A PSYCHOLOGICAL THING
I KNOW REI'S REALLY STRONG...
BUT CAN A PERSON REALLY BE THAT STRONG?
NO MATTER HOW STRONG SOMEONE IS, THEY MUST HAVE A WEAK SPOT OF SOME SORT.
LITTLE SEI?!
WHAT PART OF HIM DO YOU THINK IS FRAGILE?
YOU'RE SEI, AREN'T YOU?

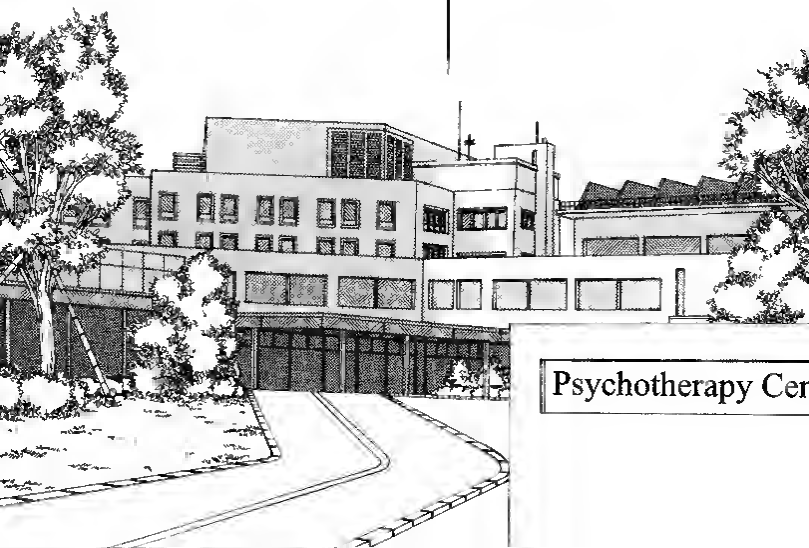
I'M A TWIN..
HE HAD A BROTHER?
HERE, LET ME SHOW YOU EVIDENCE
YOU...DIDN'T KNOW?
MAYBE IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH HIS BROTHER'S DEATH...
I NEVER HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT A BROTHER..
MUCH LESS THAT HE DIED.
BROTHER?
!

HOW'S YOUR BROTHER DOING NOW?
HE HADN'T EVEN TOLD TATSUYA...
SHUT UP!
SHUT OFF THAT SOUND!
HE DIED...
I THOUGHT I WAS BETTER...

I CAN'T ASK ABOUT IT.

I CAN'T GET ANY CLOSER TO THE TRUTH...

ABOUT SEI.



REI.
YOU SEEM WELL
I'M HAPPY TO SEE YOU
HAVE YOU GROWN AGAIN?
THAT GIRL WON'T DRAW?
SHE'S AUTISTIC, AND CAN'T DO ANYTHING ON HER OWN.
NO, SHE JUST ARRIVED AT THE CENTER

DRAWING IS AN OUTLET FOR SELF-EXPRESSION.
WE'RE HOPING SHE'LL AT LEAST BE ABLE TO HOLD THE BRUSH,
BUT IT'LL BE SOME TIME YET.
YOUR DRAWINGS ARE STILL HERE
THOSE AREN'T DRAWINGS
I WAS JUST SLAPPING ON COLOR
COLOR IS A FORM OF EXPRESSION, TOO.
DARK COLORS SHOW ANXIETY,
AND LIGHT COLORS SYMBOLIZE VITALITY
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

YOU LIED TO ME.
I'M NOT BETTER.
REI...

WHEN YOU FIRST CAME HERE YOU WERE IN TERRIBLE CONDITION.
BUT WITH MEDICATION AND A LOT OF COUNSELING,
YOU MANAGED TO REACH A NORMAL STATE
ONCE WE CONSIDERED YOU TO BE STABLE, WE DISCHARGED YOU
REI,
PSYCHOLOGICAL INJURIES ARE DIFFERENT FROM PHYSICAL INJURIES. IT'S NOT ABOUT GETTING BETTER OR NOT GETTING BETTER

SEI!!
IT'S ABOUT HOW YOU OVERCOME THEM

TO BE CONTINUED

TFT
The Furry Triangle
We Love Beavers.